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CONTENTS

AUSTRALIA

Briefs

Antarctic Icebreaker	1
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BANGLADESH

Jatiya Dal Central Committee Ousts Chief (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 27 Jan 81)	2
--	---

Nation's Biggest Irrigation Project Completed (THE BANGLADESH TIMES, 25 Jan 81)	3
--	---

Dacca Journalists Union Conference Reported (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 26 Jan 81)	4
---	---

Chittagong Students Score Dacca Students' Statement (THE BANGLADESH TIMES, 25 Jan 81)	6
--	---

Priority for Chittagong Hills Development Stressed (THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, 26 Jan 81)	7
--	---

Briefs

Awami League Defector	8
Libyan Delegation	8
Message to PRC	8

INDIA

Delhi Position on Transfer of Judges Explained (THE HINDU, 9 Feb 81)	9
---	---

Delhi Reported Not Planning To Intervene in States (THE HINDU, 9 Feb 81)	11
---	----

Rajiv Gandhi Reported 'Joining Politics' (THE SUNDAY STATESMAN, 8 Feb 81)	12
--	----

Congress(1) Leader Warns Bengal Party, Government (THE SUNDAY STATESMAN, 8 Feb 81)	13
Dalit Activist Blames Left for Caste Riots (S. Balakrishnan; THE TIMES OF INDIA, 6 Feb 81)	15
Government Reconstitutes Film, TV Society (THE HINDU, 7 Feb 81)	17
Recommendations of Minorities Panel Reported (THE HINDU, 9 Feb 81)	18
Front-Organized Farmers' March Enters Bangalore (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 6 Feb 81)	20
Questions on 1981 National Census Reported (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 8 Feb 81)	22
Draft Plan Stresses Rational Income Policy (THE HINDU, 7 Feb 81)	25
Cabinet Decides on Raise in Steel, Iron Prices (THE HINDU, 8 Feb 81)	26
Karnataka Minister Accused of Spying for Arabs (THE HINDU, 7 Feb 81)	27
Writer Analyzes Cleen Letter on Nuclear Fuel (N. Ram; THE HINDU, 9 Feb 81)	28
Better Utilization of Steel Capacity Urged (M. Kumar; THE STATESMAN, 9 Feb 81)	32
Energy Minister on Coal Prices, Power Station Plans (THE HINDU, 7 Feb 81)	35
Writer Examines Problems of Coal Production (Virendra Agarwala; THE STATESMAN, 9 Feb 81)	36
Briefs	
Delhi Supersession Upheld	39
Kerala Front Troubles	39
State Trading Chairman	39
Marxist-Leninist Appeal	39
Ahmedabad Local Elections	40
Foreign Exchange Reserves	40
Automobile Manufacture Plans	40
West Bengal 'Terrorists'	40
New Cotton Varieties	40
Jammu Reopenings	41
University Grants Head	41
Congress(U) Parley	41
Tata Steel Modernization	41

INDONESIA

Senior Army Officers Retire (SINAR HARAPAN, 16 Dec 80)	42
Biographic Information on Indonesian Personalities	45

LAOS

Expatriate Association Chief Discusses Refugees in France (VIENTIANE MAI, 26 Dec 80)	53
Social Welfare Service Works With Refugees, Collects Taxes (VIENTIANE MAI, 31 Dec 80)	55
Sisatthanak District Productivity, Statistics on Development Noted (VIENTIANE MAI, 25 Dec 80)	56
Phon Hong Agricultural Development Noted (VIENTIANE MAI, 30 Dec 80)	58

NEPAL

Opposition Reportedly May Form Common Front (THE STATESMAN, 7 Feb 81)	59
--	----

SRI LANKA

Government Reported To Fear Referendum (Gamini Navaratne; THE TIMES OF INDIA, 7 Feb 81)	61
--	----

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

ANTARCTIC ICEBREAKER--Canberra: The Cabinet is under pressure to buy a \$50 million ice-breaker to supply Australia's Antarctic bases. The Science and Technology Minister, Mr Thomson, is expected to make a submission to the Cabinet soon, arguing that it is vital to improving supply to the bases and for transport in emer- [as published] Meanwhile, the acting Science and Technology Minister, Mr Hodgman, said yesterday that the need for an ice-breaker was demonstrated by a recent mishap involving one of the three chartered supply vessels now serving the Antarctic bases. The Danish vessel Nanuk S had sustained rudder damage in Antarctic pack ice and was returning to Melbourne for dry-docking. If damage was severe or if the Nanuk S sustained further damage on the way back, the programme of supplying the bases could be disrupted, Mr Hodgman said. The government has two other vessels--The Nella Dan and the Thala Dan--on charter but the Nella Dan is occupied on a research programme. Officials said that if the Nanuk S was unable to resume service quickly, the Nella Dan might have to be brought back to the supply programme if the bases were to be adequately stocked for the long winter. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Jan 81 p 29]

CSO: 4220

JATIYA DAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OUSTS CHIEF

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 27 Jan 81 p 12

[Text] The Jatiya Dal headed by Mrs. Amina Begum has also been split. Eleven members of the 16-member central convening committee of the party in a meeting on Monday expelled party chief Mrs. Amina Begum. Advocate Golam Mohiuddin, Senior Vice President of the Party, was elected convener of an adhoc committee formed in the meeting. The meeting decided to hold party council meeting within six months.

The meeting on Monday presided over by Advocate Golam Mohiuddin in a resolution said that the party under the leadership of Mrs. Amina Begum completely became non functioning, standstill and separated from the people. It also said that despite pressure from leaders and workers party council was not held since its inception in 1976 under the Political Parties Regulation (PPR). Members present in the meeting also expressed indignation that Mrs. Amina Begum taking advantage of her remaining the party convener without holding party council tarnished the image of the party through maintaining secret relations with certain quarters for her personal ends.

The meeting unanimously expelled her from the post of convener, says a Press release issued by advocate Golam Mohiuddin.

It may be mentioned that after floating of the party in 1976 first split in the party came when Sved Serajul Huda, a party leader formed a separate committee.

CSO: 4220

NATION'S BIGGEST IRRIGATION PROJECT COMPLETED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Jan 81 p 5

[Text] Barisal, Jan. 24. Work on the Barisal Irrigation Project (BIP)--biggest in the country--has been completed at a cost of Tk. 38 crore and it will be formally inaugurated shortly, reports ENA.

About 1,40,000 acres within the project area have already been brought under cultivation said State Minister for Power Water Resources and Irrigation Mr L. K. Siddiky on Friday. He told a public meeting at Satla that the BIP would give an additional 2.03 lakh tons of crops annually worth Tk. 63.46 crore.

The project, taken up in 1975, has 58 pump stations 340 sluiceways and 60 fertilizer godowns. Over 450 miles of canal has been dug for irrigation.

He said 12.81 million dollars out of 27 million dollars in foreign loan for the project was saved. Another project named as second Barisal Irrigation Project has been taken up which will be financed with the surplus money, he added.

Mr Siddiki said this is a low-cost project which will give quick return. Entire work [words illegible] project was done by local engineers, he said.

Earlier, the State Minister visited the Satla-Bagda project, 35 miles off Barisal. The Taka 20 crore project aimed at flood control and reclamation of land was taken up in 1972 and about 19 miles of embankment out of 75 miles under the project have been completed.

He said the embankment has protected 6,000 acres out of the projection of 71,000 acres from floods which is giving an additional yield of two lakh maunds of crops.

Mr Siddiki said an additional yield of 17.50 lakh maunds of crops are expected from the project when it will be completed by 1985.

CSO: 4420

DACCA JOURNALISTS UNION CONFERENCE REPORTED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Jan 81 pp 1, 8

[Text] The three-day annual conference of Dacca Union of Journalists (DUJ) began in Dacca on Sunday at the Jatiyo Press Club with a renewed pledge to establish healthy and objective journalism in the country and to continue the struggle for repealing the black laws impeding the freedom of the Press.

Mr. Mohammad Nasiruddin Editor of SAOGAT attended the function as chief guest while Dr. Ahmed Sharif of Dacca University was special guest.

Presided over by Mr. Gias Kamal Chowdhury President, DUJ it was also addressed by Mr. Ahmed Humayun President and Mr. Reazuddin Ahmed Secretary-General of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Syed Abdul Quahar, General Secretary of DUJ.

The leaders of the journalist community called upon the people of all walks of life including the political parties to support the struggle of the journalists to uphold the freedom of the Press to reflect views and opinions of all in the newspapers. Criticising the Government's attempts to introduce new black laws retaining the old black laws they alleged that an anarchic situation prevailed in the newspaper industry. There is no clear Government policy as regards the country's newspaper industry, they regretted. Reiterating the demand for implementation of the eight-point demand of BFUJ, they urged the Government to constitute a separate Wage Board for journalist and a Press Commission to determine the status of the newspaper industry and ensure the prestige of the profession.

Mr. Mohammad Nasiruddin called upon the journalists to serve the cause of the people with honesty and boldness. The journalists should uphold the cause of truth and justice and work in the interests of the people and national development he said.

The Government during British and Pakistani regimes tried to retard the growth of journalism by undue and unjust control which exists even today, he regretted. He said that during their time they never surrendered to any pressure, he said.

Dr. Ahmed Sharif said that no rights could be realised through isolated or unorganised movement. Stressing the need for united movement and resistance to realise the demand of freedom of the Press and freedom of expression Dr. Sharif said that journalists could earn the respect of the people through their writings.

Mr. Ahmed Humayun demanding the transfer of Government controlled newspapers to unit trust and a clearly defined policy for all small and regional newspapers said that newspapers should be given the right to express and reflect the views and opinions of all shades of people. He alleged that the newspapers were not being allowed to play their due role in the society and asserted that this situation would not be allowed to continue. Stressing the need for continued movement against all sorts of black laws he urged the journalists to become aware of their great social responsibility.

The journalists should play their role in changing the society failing which their existence would be shattered the BFUJ chief said. He said that the journalists were quite aware of the grievances of other people and they had all support and cooperation for their just cause.

Mr. Reazuddin Ahmed demanding dissolution of Management Board said the newspapers should reflect the aspirations of the people.

Mr. Reazuddin Ahmed said the chaotic conditions prevailing in the newspaper industry should be removed and government control upon the government-managed newspapers should be unitedly resisted.

Referring to the "conditional freedom" of the Press, the BFUJ Secretary-General said that freedom of the Press could not be conditional.

Seeking cooperation of all sections of people including the political parties, Mr. Ahmed said that the journalists were also with them for any right cause.

He said that though the government had laid down policies for all sectors of industry, no mention had been made about its policy for the newspaper industry.

Syed Abdul Quahhar expressing solidarity of DUJ with all democratic movements of the society, said that freedom of the Press was essential for healthy growth of newspapers and journalism. Stressing the need for establishment of editorial institution, he said that establishment of such institution would facilitate the exercise of freedom of the Press. [as published]

Mr. Gias Kamal Chowdhury in his presidential address demanded immediate constitution of the Press Commission for determining the status of the profession. There is also need for formulation of national information and communication policy in conformity with the international agreements and charters like Macbride Commission reports, the DUJ President said. [as published] He also demanded introduction of house rent ceiling for the journalists.

In the afternoon session General Secretary of the union Syed Abdul quahhar presented his annual report and Mr. Sirajul Huq presented the annual audit report.

In the evening a dance drama 'Hazar Tarer Bina' was presented by Bulbul Lalitakala Academy.

CSO: 4220

CHITTAGONG STUDENTS SCORE DACCA STUDENTS' STATEMENT

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Jan 81 p 5

[Text] Fifteen meritorious students of Chittagong University have condemned the reported statement by five students of Dacca reports BSS.

In a statement here on Sunday the students said the five students issuing a statement are members of a political organisation and the statement is highly insulting to general students. It is surprising to see the statement when top leaders of some student organisations toured Europe recently at the expense of the Government though such a trip had no approval of the students community nor was it of any gain to the nation at large.

"We highly condemn such unwarranted statement by students who are more politicians than anything" they said. They called for arranging more such trips.

The signatories to the statement are: Hasan Imam, Golam Sarwar Alamgir Kabir Ashit Majumdar Rehana Khan Zareen Parveen Shamin Parveen Md Nasiruddin Shahun Anwar Atiqur Rahman Shahabuddin Nagori Khurshida Begum Rasheheda Begum Kamaluddin and Swapan Kumar Chowdhury. [as published]

CSO: 4420

PRIORITY FOR CHITTAGONG HILLS DEVELOPMENT STRESSED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 26 Jan ., p 1

[Text] Rangamati, Jan. 25:--Mr. M Monsur Ali, Minister for Textile has said that Government has undertaken various schemes for overall development of Chittagong Hill Tracts on priority basis for changing the lot of tribal people so that they may have equal participation in the economic development like other people of the country. Establishment of a Textile mill at Ghagra near Rangamati town is an example of sincere effort of the Government to achieve the goal says a Press release. [as published]

The Minister was addressing a big gathering of workers officials and local tribal people at the premises of the under construction Rangamati Textile Mill at Ghagra this morning.

He said that Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation has been working hard to operate this mill by June next.

Narrating the Government's policy of setting up new Industry, Mr Monsur Ali said that present Government is trying best to accelerate development of less developed area by establishing new industry which will help create job opportunity. [as published]

In the evening the Minister held a meeting with all categories of Government officials at the Circuit House to review the progress of the development projects undertaken by the Government for the district. The Minister instructed them for speedy completion of their respective scheme. Mr Subinial Dewan a tribal leader and President's Adviser, was also present on the occasion.

Later the Minister addressed a cross section of the people.

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

AWAMI LEAGUE DEFECTOR--Mr Saifuddin Mohammad, a former Royal Pakistan Air Force pilot and Chairman of Ratoil Union Parishad under Kasiani police station of Faridpur district joined the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) on Wednesday. He submitted his application for party membership through Shah Abdul Haleem, Organising Secretary to the Party Secretary General Prof. A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury, Minister for Labour and Industrial Welfare, Reazuddin Ahmed, State Minister for Power I. K. Siddiqui, State Minister for Textiles, Sirajul Haq Mantu Office Secretary of the Party Lt. Col (Retd) M Alauddin and other party leaders were present on the occasion. Mr Saifuddin Mohammad was an executive committee member of Gopalganj Awami League and Kasiani Awami League. He was also a Freedom Fighter who put up a gallant fight against the occupation forces in Bhatiapara under Sector Nine. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 24 Jan 81 p 1]

LIBYAN DELEGATION--Two-member delegation of the socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; now in Dacca in connection with the grand Islamic Conference in Danga on Friday visited the Islamic Foundation and the Lalbagh Madrasa; reports BSS. The delegation which arrived in Bangladesh last Friday comprised Dr Muammar Issa; Professor Arabic and Islamic Affairs University of Al-Fatah and Quar Broadcasting service of Tripoli. (as published) A Libyan embassy press release on Friday said the delegation expressed its happiness over the Islamic spirit prevailing at all levels in Bangladesh. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 24 Jan 81 p 3]

MESSAGE TO PRC--President Ziaur Rahman has expressed his deep shock and grief at the loss of lives and damages to properties in the recent earthquake in South-West China, says an official announcement. In a message to Mr Zhao Ziyang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the president said "Excellency, we are deeply shocked and grieved to learn that a strong earthquake has recently devastated some areas in the South-West China resulting in loss of lives and widespread damages to properties. On behalf of the Government and the people of Bangladesh and on my own behalf I convey to Your Excellency our heartfelt condolences and sympathy for the victims of this natural calamity. Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Jan 81 pp 1, 8]

CSO: 4220

DELHI POSITION ON TRANSFER OF JUDGES EXPLAINED

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 81 p 6

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 8.

In a counter-affidavit filed in the Supreme Court in the writ petitions challenging the transfer of Mr. Justice M. M. Ismail, Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, (now on leave) as Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court, the Union of India has contended that Article 222 (dealing with transfer of a High Court judge) applies to all judges of High Courts, including the Chief Justice.

The transfer of High Court judges is governed by Article 222 and not by Article 217 dealing with appointment of judges. Therefore, the "transfer" of a High Court judge or Chief Justice is not a mode of appointment under Article 217, contended the counter-affidavit filed by Miss A. Subhashini, Central Government counsel.

The question whether or not the seniormost judge of the High Court should be appointed Chief Justice of the High Court, when the erstwhile Chief Justice is transferred is totally irrelevant in interpreting Article 222.

The requirements of Article 222, it contended, are set out in the very Article. It is correct that judges must be immune from executive control or interference and this is ensured by requiring effective consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

It further contended that the Constitution reposed complete confidence in such effective consultation by the President with the Chief Justice of India under Article 222. Transfer of a judge from one High Court to another shall not be understood as interference with the independence of the judiciary, but as being in public interest.

Where an effective consultation has taken place, the matter (regarding transfer of a judge) is no longer justiciable. Further, the fact that a transferred judge has to take a fresh oath makes no difference to the interpretation of Article 222.

Transfer of a judge without his consent will not per se involve punishment.

The communication between the Chief Minister and the Central Government regarding transfer of a Chief Justice is confidential and cannot be disclosed, it contended.

Public Interest: The Chief Justice of India has nowhere defined publicly what constituted "public interest" nor is it possible to define "public interest". It will depend on a variety of considerations.

Every individual transfer will have to be considered in the context of public interest and Article 222 itself provides due procedure, namely, that there must be effective consultation with the Chief Justice of India as explained by the Supreme Court in a case (Seth's case).

Where a judge is transferred, the decision must be taken in public interest and the views attributed to the Chief Justice of India are not a matter of public knowledge nor is it legally permissible to investigate the same for the purpose of this case.

The affidavit also contended that transfer was not adverse to the judge concerned and that there was no malafide of any kind involved in the transfer of a judge after the Chief Justice of India had been effectively consulted as required under Article 222.

The principles of natural justice are not applicable to the transfer of a High Court judge or Chief Justice under Article 222.

The question whether the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court or the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court had opportunity to state their case before their transfer is also irrelevant in interpreting Article 222 and it is not for the petitioners to raise any such plea.

The allegation that the impugned orders of transfer were passed on the basis of recommendations made by the Chief Justice of India on grounds personal is vague or indefinite.

Transfers are made in public interest and factors which entered into consideration are all such as are relevant to public interest, it contended.

The transfer in public interest of a High Court judge or Chief Justice after effective consultation with the Chief Justice of India is not to be taken as being unfavourable to the State. The decision to transfer is taken always after mature consideration and cannot be described as accidental, it contended.

In interpreting Article 222, it cannot be said that the seniormost judge is deprived of his opportunity to become Chief Justice of a High Court, the counter-affidavit said.

CSO: 4220

DELHI REPORTED NOT PLANNING TO INTERVENE IN STATES

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 8.

The Centre does not favour drastic moves against the non-Congress (I) Governments, be it in West Bengal, Tripura, Jammu and Kashmir or Kerala.

The Congress (I) units in some of these States, at one stage, were anxious for Central action on one plea or the other.

In West Bengal, for instance, Congress (I) representatives sought to make out a case for New Delhi's intervention on the grounds that the Left Front Government had misused the official machinery for partisan ends and that the law and order situation was disturbing.

In Kerala the public utterances of the Union Minister for Communications, Mr. C. M. Stephen, on the obligations of the State Governments to implement Central laws caused some fears because the coalition set-up made known its disinclination to use the powers of preventive detention.

As regards Tripura, last year's holocaust was cited to justify dismissal of the marxist Government.

And in Jammu and Kashmir, Shiekh Abdullah seriously believed that a section of the Congress (I), notably its youth wing, planned to oust him.

All that is now a thing of the past. In their discussions with Central leaders, the Congress (I) representatives from these States found New Delhi reluctant to embark on any adventurist course. The Congress (I) Chief in Jammu and Kashmir, who discussed the State's affairs with Mrs. Gandhi recently, said later that "there was no short cut to power for them". This was so, even though, as he said, Mrs. Gandhi shared his concern over the situation in the State.

In West Bengal, the Congress (I) badly riven into factions, became aware of Central thinking on several occasions, at times through oblique hints, at times through direct and blunt talk. The very suggestion that the West Bengal party unit was repeatedly told to set its house in order, to end the factional strife and manage even a semblance of unity was a clear enough indication that it was considered unfit to run the State administration.

Not that New Delhi never toyed with the idea of Central intervention in these States. On quiet reflection, it came to the conclusion that Central action in any of these States would be counter-productive, and that the Congress (I) would be adding to its worries when it had several problems on hand.

CSO: 4220

RAJIV GANDHI REPORTED 'JOINING POLITICS'

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 8 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 7.--Mr Rajiv Gandhi seems to have made up his mind on the question of joining politics. He appears to have assumed control of the party machine and of other political affairs as well. He is being aided by Mr Vijay Dhar, the son of late D. P. Dhar, and Mr M. L. Fotedar, at one time Mrs Gandhi's election agent.

Mr Gandhi has reportedly been meeting Chief Ministers, Ministers and other prominent personalities of the ruling party. What is more, for the past 10 days or so, he has been conferring with all the six general-secretaries of the AICC(I) regularly for an hour or two each day--Mr Vasantdada Patil, Mr G. K. Moopnar, Mr Shyamsunder Mohapatra, Mr Satyanarayana Rao, Mrs Rajendra Kimari Bajpai and Mr Kalpnath Rai. The six general-secretaries, or as many of them as are in the capital, troop in at 10 a.m. each day at 1, Akbar Road, adjacent to the Prime Minister's house for confabulations and instructions.

The discussions at such meetings have so far been mainly around the holding of the "kisan rally" on February 16, the day Parliament opens for its Budget session, which is being organized to demonstrate that it is the Congress (I) that has the support of the "kisans" and not any other party. Mr Gandhi appear to be making fool-proof arrangements, with the help of the six general-secretaries. [as published]

There is speculation in the Congress (I) circles that it is on the occasion of the "kisan rally" that Mr Gandhi will make his debut in public affairs. In fact, when Mr Patil was asked at his usual Press briefings a few days ago, if Mr Gandhi would participate in the rally and would address it, Mr Patil had replied that he was being requested to participate.

The six general-secretaries have visited different States to secure the help of the Congress (I)-ruled Chief Ministers and State party organizations to make the rally an unprecedented one. Mr Patil has been to Maharashtra, Mrs Bajpai to Uttar Pradesh and other States, Mr Satyanarayana Rao to Madhya Pradesh and some southern States and Mr Kalpnath Rai to Punjab and Haryana.

CSO: 4220

CONGRESS(I) LEADER WARNS BENGAL PARTY, GOVERNMENT

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 8 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] Mr Kalpnath Rai, M.P. and genegal secretary of the AICC(I), said in Calcutta on Saturday that the party's high command was not going to tolerate any longer indiscipline in the West Bengal party. [as published] Discipline, he said, was not negotiable and henceforth the high command would take action on complaints lodged by the PCC(I) president and the State Youth Congress (I) present about the anti-party activity of any member.

He pointed out that disciplinary action had already been taken against some members of the Madhya Pradesh Congress(I) and the high command would not hesitate to take a similar disciplinary measure against any WBPC(I) member for improper conduct. Referring to the existence of two faction in the Youth Congress(I) in West Bengal he announced that the All-India Youth Congress(I) president, Mr Golam Nazi Azad had approved the faction under the leadership of Mr Somen Mitra as the official unit and a telegram had been sent to the president of the rival faction, Mr Sushovan Bose, asking him to desist from maintaining a rival faction.

Criticizing the Left Front Government in West Bengal, the Congress(I) leader said that he had been told by State PCC(I) executive committee members that about 500 members and supporters of the party and its frontal organizations had been killed during the past three years. There was no sense of security in the urban and rural areas in the State.

He said that West Bengal was getting sufficient kerosene, diesel, coal and other essential commodities from the Centre. But, he alleged, that the State Government was not unloading them in time thereby "intentionally allowing the hoarders and blackmarketers to make illegal profit for obvious reasons". He claimed that not a single hoarder or blackmarketer had been arrested in the State during the past three years.

The Left Front Government, he said, was only interested in confrontation with the Centre and had no intention of cooperating with it. "No Government adopting a policy of confrontation can be allowed to function. A State Government must function within the framework of the Constitution. The moment a Government crosses the limit it will not be allowed to continue", he said. Asked if he thought that the Left Front Government in West Bengal had crossed the limit, he replied in the negative. The Prime Minister wanted the non-Congress Governments to continue for their full term, he pointed out.

Mr Rai said that about four million farmers were likely to assemble at the coming kisan rally in Delhi organized by the Congress (I). The WBPCC(I) president, Mr Ajit Panja, had told him that the State party would try to send 100,000 farmers from West Bengal.

According to our Staff Reporter, Mr Rai said at Calcutta airport on Friday, that leaders of his party would explain to the farmers how the Congress(I) had contributed to their welfare and how the Janata and the Lok Dal leaders deprived them of what was due to them.

Asked why his party had taken up the programme after some other party leaders had held similar rally, Mr Rai said his party felt it necessary because other parties were trying to misguide farmers, which would go against the interest of the country and the people. [as published]

Mr S. S. Mohapatra, the Congress(I) General Secretary, told reporters at the airport on Friday that the party's central leadership would take stern steps to bring unity in the West Bengal Congress(I) if persuasion and discussion failed. [as published] Mr Mohapatra, who was on his way from Bhubaneswar to New Delhi, said the differences in the party's State unit had been caused by differences among the leaders. There was no difference among the cadres, he added.

Mr Mohapatra said that the party would take up an "action-oriented programme" after the "kisan rally" in Delhi on February 16. All leaders would work together. "We have to work together against a regimented party like the CPI(M), for otherwise our position in the State is very bleak", Mr Mohapatra said. He added that Mr Ajit Panja, president of the State unit, had been nominated by Mrs Gandhi and his position was unassailable.

Mr Mohapatra alleged that the CPI(M), in collusion with the police was trying to terrorize Congress(I) workers in West Bengal. During his recent visit to a Youth Congress(I) office in Calcutta he had seen how the police had ransacked it under the pretext of a search, and destroyed the pictures of national leaders.

CSO: 4220

DALIT ACTIVIST BLAMES LEFT FOR CASTE RIOTS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Feb 81 p 7

[Article by S. Balakrishnan]

[Text] Caste riots in the country, like the one in Gujarat, are an indictment of the left movement, according to Mr. V. T. Rajahekar Shetty, an activist of the Bangalore-based Dalit action committee.

The leaders of the left are mechanically applying Marxism-Leninism in India without taking adequate notice of local conditions. They lay great stress on class struggle disregarding important variables like caste. Even though some of them are beginning to reconsider their earlier stances, there is no change in their practice, Mr. Shetty told this paper recently.

However, the failure to undertake caste struggles alongwith class struggles is not surprising since the left leadership in the country is dominated by the upper castes. [as published]

The left leadership criticised the Dalit leaders for isolating the Harijans and other socially-oppressed sections from the areas of class battles. But, separate caste-based organisations grew into prominence largely because of the failure of the left to take up the problems of their members.

Objectively the scheduled castes and other backward communities, being economically exploited, should be part of the left movement.

The Marxist-Leninist philosophy would find natural adherents in them. But, the upper-caste led left movement had let them down. Merely asserting that reservations and other concessions granted to the scheduled casts and tribes were part of the ruling classes' strategy to divide the people does not mean anything.

The need is to integrate the economically-exploited sections of the upper castes, including the Brahmins, with the Harijans and other socially-oppressed people, who form the majority.

The Harijans are exploited both socially and economically unlike the upper castes, Mr. Shetty, who has authored a number of controversial booklets on the class-caste question, reasoned.

Class Consciousness

Encouragement of caste struggles will broadly heighten the class consciousness of the oppressed sections since more often than not it is the upper castes, not necessarily Brahmins, which form the propertied class, he added.

In the process, even some of the elite among the so-called lower castes, who have benefited by government concessions and who ignore their caste brethren, would stand exposed, Mr. Shetty observed.

The alienation of the Dalits from the left movement was best exemplified in the case of Kerala where the "untouchables" are joining the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). It is an act of desperation on their part in the face of the upper-caste led Marxists' actions, he noted.

In the Marxist Jyoti Basu's ministry, there is not a single cabinet rank minister from the scheduled castes though there were 72 MLAs from these castes and tribes, Mr. Shetty regretted.

CSO: 4220

GOVERNMENT RECONSTITUTES FILM, TV SOCIETY

Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Feb 81 p 7

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 6.

The Government has reconstituted the Film and Television Institute of India Society (FTII).

Mr. Shyam Benegal, will be the president of the society and chairman of its governing council, says an official release.

Other members of the society are: Mr. G. Aravindan, Mr. V. P. Sathe, Mr. Bansi Chandra Gupta, Mrs. Vijaya Metha, Mr. Govind Nihalani, Mr. Hrishikesh Mukherjee, Mr. Bikram Singh, Mrs. Vijaya Mulay, Shabana Azami, Mr Sayeed Mirza, Naseeruddin Shah, R Girish Kasarvalli.

Mr. A. Chothani, National Development Board, Anand (Gujarat), Mr. Kiran Karnik, Indian Space Research Organisation, Ahmedabad and Mr. J. N. Dixit, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

The ex-officio members are: Joint Secretary (Information), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Joint Secretary (Finance), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Director General, Doordarshan, New Delhi.

Director, Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, Director (Films), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Managing Director, National Film Development Corporation, Bombay.

Chief Producer, Film Division, Bombay, Director, Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi and Director, National School of Drama, New Delhi.

The recasting of the society follows the recommendations of the inquiry committee headed by Mr. Satish Chandra, which recommended greater autonomy for the institute.

Earlier the Secretary of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting was ex-officio chairman of its governing council.--PTI.

INDIA

RECOMMENDATIONS OF MINORITIES PANEL REPORTED

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 81 p 9

[Text] Hyderabad, Feb. 8.

Forty per cent of all plan funds (which would work out to about Rs. 40,000 crores during the Sixth Plan) should be invested in areas where minorities, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections are concentrated. These people constitute 60 per cent of the country's population.

This is one of the recommendations made by the high power panel on minorities, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections, in its interim report submitted to the Prime Minister a week ago. The report contained 70 recommendations.

Dr. Gopal Singh, Chairman of the 11-member panel, told pressmen here on Sunday that they had made the recommendation about the allocation of plan funds to stress that the "benefits of the plan must go to everybody".

Scholarship for Minorities

The panel, set up by the Union Government last May, has also recommended that Rs. 1,000 crores be earmarked during the Sixth Plan for scholarships to children of minorities (Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Parsis and Buddhists) and weaker sections (people whose family income is less than Rs. 12,000 a year).

It was of the view that poor parents should be given "stipends" of Rs. 25 to Rs. 50 a month to release their children from work and get them educated.

Dr. Singh felt that Muslims should not demand education in Urdu but switch over to English or the local language medium which would increase their job prospects.

Another recommendation of the panel is that one-third of the membership of the board of directors, including chairman and managing director, of Central public sector undertakings and nationalised banks be reserved for minorities and weaker sections.

Dr. Singh said that out of the 600 such posts available now there were "hardly any" candidates representing them.

Among other things, the panel was asked to identify their economic disabilities and recommend measures to overcome the problems.

The members of the panel include Mr. Hokeishe Sema, former Chief Minister of Nagaland, Dr. Rafiq Zakaria, MP, Mr. Leon D'Souza, MP, and Mr. L. Bullayya, former Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University.

Dr. Singh said that in its first report the panel dealt with employment in the Central Government departments and public sector undertakings, nationalised banks and Central universities.

The panel was also expecting data from industrial houses in the private sector, he said. This sector, should not be allowed to develop on "caste or family" lines because most of its money came from public funds. We have to see that these funds are used for public welfare.

According to Dr. Singh, minorities were by and large well placed in the country's political life. Out of the 800 seats in both Houses of Parliament, Muslims held 73 seats, though strictly speaking, there were only nine Muslim-majority constituencies in the country.

It was only in the economic sector that minorities needed to be given their due share.

(The panel's statistics show that minorities constitute 18 per cent of the population, Harijans 15 per cent, Girijans 7-1/2 per cent and weaker sections 20 per cent).

Dr. Singh expressed disappointment at the lack of response from politicians to the panels to a circular seeking their views and suggestions on the disabilities suffered by minorities and others.

Only 50 out of the 5,000 Parliamentarians and State legislators had replied to the panel's letters to them. The Bharatiya Janata Party, the Lok Dal and the All India Muslim League had not responded to the panel's letter.

In response to the panel's letters, the embassies of the U.S., U.K., Canada, Ireland and Australia gave information about the facilities provided to minorities in their countries. There was no response from the Pakistani embassy, Dr. Singh said.

The panel proposes to submit 15 reports to the Union Government. Its work would involve studies in 50 select blocks, out of the total of 5,000, in the country.

CSO: 4220

FRONT-ORGANIZED FARMERS' MARCH ENTERS BANGALORE

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Feb 81 p 9

A Maharashtra-type long march of farmers, organised by the progressive democratic front, comprising the Congress (U), and CPI, the CPM and the Dal, entered Bangalore this morning.

The marchers had left Nargund in Dharwar district and took 21 days to cover the distance of 435 km to the state capital. There were women too among the marchers.

The marchers carried a torch in memory of those killed in the police firing at Nargund.

The marchers were joined here by the striking workers of the Bangalore-based public sector undertakings and students.

The organisers claimed that a lakh of people participated in the march. On the outskirts of Bangalore at Goraguntepalya, the long march stretched over 3 km, the participants walking four abreast.

The march culminated at a mass rally in Cubbon Park which was addressed among others by Mr. D. Devaraj Urs, Congress (U) president, Mr. Rajeshwar Rao (CPI), Mr. M. K. Bhat (CPM) and Mr. Nanjesh Gowda (Lok Dal).

Even as the marchers were gathering for the mass rally, the chief minister, Mr. R. Gundu Rao, was describing in the legislative assembly the long march as a "hired political agitation."

The chief minister asserted that the farmers' agitation was politically motivated and "I shall meet it politically." He described the four constituents of the front "strange bedfellows".

Mr. Gundu Rao said that no other government had given so many concessions or showed so much sympathy to the farmers as his own. Making an oblique reference to Mr. Urs regime, he said the betterment levy and water rates had been raised. [as published] "I have abolished the betterment levy and reduced the water rates," he said.

What had the CPI and the CPM done for the farmers in Kerala and West Bengal, he asked.

Mr. Rao said even now he was prepared for discussions on the farmers' problems. "But they must be above the political level," he said.

He declined to receive the long march or the "martyrs' torch".

Mr. J. H. Patel, deputy leader of the Congress (U), who had given notice of an adjournment motion on the long march, walked out, accompanied by members of his party and the CPI. The Maharashtra Ekikaran Samithi group, headed by Mr. B. B. Sayanka, also staged a walk-out separately to express support to the long march.

Significantly, the Janata group, led by Mr. S. R. Bommai, did not walk out. Mr. Bommai and Mr. H. D. Deve Gowda made it clear that their party was second to none in supporting the farmers. Mr. Bommai said he would like to take advantage of the chief minister's offer for further discussions. He, however, described as "eyewash" the concessions given to the farmers by the government.

The Bharatiya Janata Party too did not support the long march. The farmers' organisation, headed by Mr. H. S. Rudrappa, which had held massive demonstrations in Shimoga earlier, also stayed out of the long march.

CSO: 4220

QUESTIONS ON 1981 NATIONAL CENSUS REPORTED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 8 Feb 81 p 7

[Text] In the next 20 days, if someone knocks at your door and asks you probing questions do not shove him or her out. Offer the person a seat and co-operate with the visitor.

The 11th national census of India begins on Monday and about 1.5 million enumerators will start counting heads. Unlike in the past, this time every citizen should be more patient and put up with about 37 queries concerning every individual in a household, including the just-born child. On an average, an enumerator may take at least 30 minutes for every household.

While the middle-class and slum dwellers co-operate with the enumerators (most of them offer seats and at times some drink, too), the rich ignore them. The difficulty in getting details is mostly found in areas like Malabar Hill, Pedder Road, Cuffe Parade--all posh localities of Bombay, according to Mr. A. W. Mahatme, deputy director of census operations, Maharashtra. In the trial census conducted some time ago, he found that most of the elite residents would not even open the door and even if they opened, would not let the enumerator in.

For the first time, the Indian census will collect data on the construction material used for the wall, roof and floor of the house. Other new information which would be gathered include the language spoken in the house, whether the house is rented or owned, source of drinking water, number of living rooms in the house, whether there is a toilet, is the house electrified, whether anyone in the house is attending school or college, the nature of employment, and reasons for migration and so on.

Unlike in many other states, in Maharashtra, a schedule called individual sample slip will be supplied to all individuals. In addition to revealing details on the pattern of internal migration, this form will also throw light on fertility rates.

All information supplied to the census authorities was confidential and none should hesitate to give it, Mr. Mahatme said. Any entry in the census records was not admissible as evidence in any court. Sometimes, even courts asked for details from the census records which were turned down by the department, he said.

Another significant feature of this census will be data relating to degree holders and technical personnel. This data is being collected for the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The schedule will be given to the individuals for collecting further details.

In 1971, no question on household was asked at all. In 1961, questions on cultivation were included in the schedule which are again included now.

The definition of a part-time worker and seasonal worker has been modified for 1981 census purposes. Also, a person to be included in the census list should have resided at least for one day from February 9 to 28 in his normal residence. Otherwise, his name will be excluded from his normal household and enumerated elsewhere.

110,000 Blocks

Maharashtra has been divided into 110,000 enumeration blocks. Each urban block will have an average population of 600, while the rural block is for a population of 750. For every five enumerators there is a supervisor.

Greater Bombay has 17,000 enumeration blocks and it needs 25,000 enumerators, including supervisors. But, so far only 21,000 have been drafted. The authorities are confident that they can complete the operations on schedule. The training for the enumerators began in October. In cities like Bombay and Nagpur there were many dropouts. Under the census act, if anyone refused to serve for the census operations, a fine of Rs. 1,000 can be imposed. But in Maharashtra, no legal action has been taken against anyone for non-compliance with the act so far. However, this year the authorities sent show-cause notices for the first time to enumerators who did not attend training classes, and later they reported.

Each enumerator is paid an honorarium of Rs. 100. But prior to 1951, no payment was made. For the 1981 census, the state has been allocated Rs. 2.6 crores.

The census schedule for Bombay and Ulhasnagar will be in English while for the rest of the state it will be in Marathi. Most of the entries will be made in codes.

The count will be taken as at sunrise on March 1. The revision of census will take place between March 1, and 5. On March 17, provisional population data for the country will be released and a week later, the states will release district-wise data.

On the night of February 28, the houseless population will be counted. They may be asked to collect in certain areas.

To process data, nine tabulation offices will be set up in the state and primary census abstract will be prepared there. The district census handbooks, containing village-wise statistics, will be tabulated manually. [as published] At the state level, bulk of the tabulation will be done through computers.

For the first time in the state, "direct data entry system" is being introduced. Data will be directly recorded on magnetic tapes which will be sent to Delhi for analysis in the central computer. Previously, the Central Railway computers were hired and it involved a lot of money and time as the cards had to be punched.

The census department has also given up the practice of preparing detailed analysis which delayed the publication of data. This time it will only prepare tables, leaving the analysis for research scholars.

The general report on census for the state for 1961 and 1971 have not yet been published. Usually, the officers were transferred after the operations and they were not able to publish the reports. Hence, this procedure has also been given up now.

In Assam and Jammu and Kashmir, the census operations may not take place as scheduled because of the peculiar situations in the states, it is learnt. An official said in these state the census might be postponed but not cancelled. [as published]

All census offices in the city will remain open on Sunday to enable enumerators to collect their stationery and other material.

CSO: 4220

DRAFT PLAN STRESSES RATIONAL INCOME POLICY

Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Feb 81 p 6

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 6.

The draft fifth Plan has urged the adoption of a rational income policy.

In the present context of the Union Government's efforts to peg the emoluments of the employees of the Life Insurance Corporation of India the draft Plan's stress on a rational income policy is of considerable interest.

It says, "In spite of the various measures taken so far, there has been no significant dent yet on the problem of income disparities. While this is attributable partly to the limitations of the measures adopted and shortcomings in their implementation, the development process itself has also tended to benefit more the favourably placed sections of the community.

"The recurrence of the inflationary phenomenon has further accentuated the distortions in income distribution. The problem is extremely complex on account of the skewed distribution of assets on the one hand and the deep-rooted historical socio-economic factors on the other.

"The need to provide adequate incentives for increased efficiency and productivity renders the task of income redistribution even more difficult. It is essential to exercise some control on high incomes as well as non-functional incomes", the draft adds.

How to Keep Prices Under Control

The draft plan, while expressing concern over the rising price spiral, has, however, said, "Overall stability of prices does not mean rigidity in prices. Changes in relative prices may occur in response to change in the demand-supply situation. These may have also to be induced to influence resource allocation in order to achieve the desired pattern of consumption, production and investment".

In order to ensure that prices of essential consumer goods are kept under control, "It is important that the targets of production both in agriculture and industry are realised and for this purpose the various programmes, schemes and

policy measures included in the Plan are effectively implemented.

"As recent experience indicates any increase in production would crucially depend on adequate and timely availability of the basic facilities such as power and transport. Particular attention has, therefore, to be given to improving and developing the infrastructure so as to ensure that constraints in these sectors do not hamper growth. It would also be necessary to improve the monitoring system so that remedial measures are taken expeditiously as and when necessary".

The draft has also uttered a stern warning against resort to any increase in deficit financing during the Plan period because of the serious impact it would have on prices.

"Studies in the Planning Commission indicate", says the Plan document, "that the Indian fiscal system does not have adequate built-in elasticity to generate automatically additional resources for financing higher project costs in the wake of inflation.

"If, therefore, prices continue to rise, leading thereby to a rise in project costs, the additional resource mobilisation in nominal terms may have to be higher than indicated if the real size of the Plan is to be protected. Any resort in such a situation to an increase in deficit financing to cover the gap between the desired level of plan outlay and available resources will have to be scrupulously avoided as this would accentuate inflationary trends and create distortions in the structure of the Plan".

Expressing concern over the recent record in money supply increase by pointing out that the increase exceeded 13 per cent in 1979-80, the Plan document says: "This order of increase in money supply in the context of a decline in both agricultural and industrial production was an important factor contributing to the price rise in that year. Its impact was all the more severe as it came over and above the substantial increase in money supply that had taken place in the previous years. The rate of growth of money

supply has, however, deteriorated in 1980-81 and this has helped materially in restraining the price rise in the last few months".

The Plan document calls for keeping a close watch over the level and pattern of interest rates. "There is evidence to suggest", it says, "that savings in the form of deposits with financial institutions and certain other types of financial assets are responsive to changes in the rates of interest. The interest rate policy can thus be effectively employed for augmenting savings in addition to its use in the regulation of credit expansion by increasing the cost of inventories and speculative hoarding.

"The interest rates must also reflect the relative scarcity of capital and the need to promote labour intensive techniques of production. It will, of course, be necessary to ensure that the interest rates are not too high for the poor and weaker sections or for investment in high priority areas. This could be taken care of by differential rates of interest on a selective basis".

The Plan points out that it would be necessary to adopt further measures — fiscal, monetary and others — to increase savings. In so far as this contributes to the increase in financial savings in the form of bank deposits, life insurance premia and contribution to provident funds there would be an increased flow of resources for the public sector plan through market borrowings; an increase in small savings and provident fund accumulations of Government employees would flow directly to the public sector.

Pointing out that there is only a limited scope for raising additional resources through taxation, the plan document has also laid emphasis on the reduction of subsidies. "The Central Government", it says, "has already reduced the net burden of fertilizer subsidy by increasing its prices. It is recognised that it may not be possible to eliminate altogether the subsidies that exist at present. Nevertheless a significant reduction in subsidies from the level budgeted for 1980-81 is necessary to raise the required order of resources for the Plan".

CABINET DECIDES ON RAISE IN STEEL, IRON PRICES

Madras THE HINDU in English 8 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 7.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs is understood to have decided to raise the price of steel items by 20 per cent and that of pig iron by Rs. 400 per tonne.

The present price of pig iron per tonne is Rs. 1078.

Following are the prevailing prices of steel items--the prices take into account the Joint Plant Committee prices and a sum of Rs. 35.

Tor steel: 10 millimetres--Rs. 3144, 12 mm--Rs. 3164, 25 mm--Rs. 3024.

Rounds: 10 mm--Rs. 2844, 12 mm--Rs. 2864, 16 mm--Rs. 2764.

Angles: 50/50/6 mm--Rs. 2651, 75/75/6 mm--Rs. 2561.

Channel: 100/50 mm--Rs. 2631, 150/75 mm--Rs. 2711.

Plates: 10 mm--Rs. 2998, 25 mm. Rs. 2948.

Hot rolled sheets--both of 2.5 mm and 3.15 mm--Rs. 3188.

Cold rolled sheets: one mm (thickness) Rs. 4726, 0.63 mm--Rs. 5129.

Galvanised plain sheets: of 0.63 mm--Rs. 6759.

Galvanised corrugated sheet of 0.63 mm--Rs. 6807.--PTI.

CSO: 4220

KARNATAKA MINISTER ACCUSED OF SPYING FOR ARABS

Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Feb 81 p 9

[Text]

BANGALORE, Feb. 6.

The leader of the BJP group in the Legislative Council, Mr. A. K. Subbasha on Friday accused the Minister for Planning and Works, Mr. C. M. Ibrahim of spying for an Arab country.

Speaking on the motion of thanks to the Governor, Mr. Subbasha alleged that during a recent visit to West Asia, Mr. Ibrahim was presented with a wrist watch "by a king" at a banquet. Such a wrist watch was being presented by that country only to its spies.

It enabled the wearer to enter that country without a visa and it was a form of identification. The Government should seize that watch and produce it before the House.

Mr. Subbasha demanded that Mr. Ibrahim should be detained under the National Security Act for his espionage activities.

He also questioned about a gold sword presented to Mr. Ibrahim and about its value. Except for a poet of order rated by Mr. T. N. Narasimhamurthy (Congress-I) the ruling party members and the two Ministers present in the House at that time did not intervene when Mr. Subbasha was making the charges.

Earlier stating that he would level more allegations against Mr. Ibrahim, Mr. Subbasha said as Minister

for Food and Civil Supplies, the Minister had created artificial scarcity of cement and barometer. Mr. Ibrahim and his brother had diverted cement to contractors.

He also spoke of another "scandal" in the appointment of the Chairman of the Bal Shiksha Yojana. He demanded to know who the woman was and how she came to be appointed.

Mr. Subbasha alleged that she was running the Department of Women and Children's Welfare and not the Minister, Mrs. Manorama Mathuraj. The Ministry was not being run any more.

He had levelled 68 allegations against the Chief Minister and his Ministers. Cases of rape had been ruled in the name of arranging functions to facilitate the Chief Minister. A Minister had functioned as the Chairman of a committee to facilitate an M.P.

Mr. Subbasha, who hails from the erstwhile Coorg district, alleged that the Government was under the influence of anti-social elements and recalled that no action had been taken on his repeated complaints to the Government about the activities of certain Kerala timber smugglers in hacking down about 1,000 acres of coconuts lands in Coorg.

WRITER ANALYZES GLENN LETTER ON NUCLEAR FUEL

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 81 p 8

[Article by N. Ram]

[Text] That "reprocessing" is indeed the red rag to the non-proliferation warriors rearing to go against the U.S. nuclear fuel supply relationship with India has become quite evident during the past few days.

Senator John Glenn's letter to the U.S. President, dated February 5 and made available to THE HINDU, targets "the official Indian attitude on the reprocessing of U.S.-origin spent fuel at Tarapur" as undercutting "the rationale used to justify sending the fuel."

He insists that "despite our bending over backwards in order to show goodwill toward India in the nuclear area, the Indians may be prepared to violate the agreement for cooperation and separate out plutonium from the spent fuel at Tarapur without our permission".

His recommendation to Mr. Ronald Reagan is to "withhold sending the second part of the shipment until appropriate assurances are received from the Indians regarding the future disposition of our spent fuel and the maintenance of safeguards".

In effect, the Senator's suggestion is that the pending Tarapur fuel shipment be used to wring out of India acceptance of the U.S. position that its "prior approval" or "permission" is needed for reprocessing U.S.-origin fuel.

Since it is clear that Mr. Glenn is knowledgeable and realist enough to realise that the chances of winning such acceptance through such a card are virtually nil, it must be assumed he is suggesting to the new administration an expedient way to terminate the 1963 agreement of nuclear cooperation.

Legitimising Device

What is suggested, in other words, is a legitimising device that is not derived from the U.S. Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978, but appears to flow out of the irreconcilable differences in interpreting the "reprocessing" clause of the original agreement.

India's position, it bears reiteration, is that there can be no retroactive (or overriding) application of a U.S. domestic law on an agreement between two sovereign States that has the force of an international treaty.

The Glenn appeal to Mr. Reagan to suspend the fuel supply relationship in the absence of an Indian acceptance of the U.S. position on reprocessing Tarapur fuel and maintaining safeguards irrespective of the existence or termination of the 1963 agreement makes another concrete suggestion.

This takes off from "recent press reports" claiming that "the Indian Government is proposing an amicable end to its agreement for cooperation in nuclear matters with the U.S.". This would be a convenient way indeed for the U.S. to wriggle out of its commitments under the 1963 agreement--if only it were true.

The External Affairs Ministry spokesman has refuted the report that appeared in the WASHINGTON POST by emphasising that "the Government of India has consistently reiterated its hope that Indo-U.S. nuclear cooperation can continue".

But assuming for a moment the report is correct, the "amicable end" proposed by Senator Glenn is revealing. "I feel we should accommodate them with the understanding that termination of the contract does not relieve them of any obligation with respect to either the continued safeguarding of the reactors and the spent fuel or U.S. prior consent on the reprocessing of U.S.-origin spent fuel."

The trend of argument by the joint author of the U.S. domestic legislation on non-proliferation is not out of line with observations he made to THE HINDU in the first half of January (during the Alexander Haig confirmation hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee), but probably reflects a new and shrewd assessment that the "reprocessing" issue provides a tactical opportunity for the U.S. to take the offensive to end the nuclear fuel supply relationship with India. Mr. Glenn is aware, of course, of the view among the State Department's legal experts that India's position on the Tarapur agreement is very strong, if not virtually unassailable.

The Indian position over which the U.S. has acute political difficulty has two major elements. The first concerns the regular and timely supply of nuclear fuel for the Tarapur reactors until 1993. The second concerns reprocessing the spent fuel.

Delay Unacceptable

India holds that the unwarranted delay and uncertainty of the fuel shipments is entirely of the making of the U.S. There is no way under the 1963 agreement for the U.S. to back out of its commitment to supply low-enriched uranium fuel for "the continuous and efficient operation" of the Tarapur plant without breaking the agreement. Delay and uncertainty as a built-in feature of the nuclear relationship is unacceptable. [as published]

India also contests the business of "when actually needed"--a unilateral assertion by the U.S. derived from political expediency and extrapolating the needs of the Tarapur plant from its uneconomic or less-than-efficient operation imposed by the supply problem.

It points out that the delivery schedule upon which it has been making applications for enriched uranium fuel was drawn up by two American Government officials, Messrs Kiefer and Last, after a visit to India in late 1976. India was not satisfied with that schedule which established lower levels for India than for other foreign buyers of American fuel, but accepted it as a practical guide for action to gain the minimum quantity at the intervals fixed by the U.S. side.

Veto Power Derives from N.P. Act

Specifically on reprocessing Tarapur spent fuel, there is no reference in the 1963 agreement to "permission" or "Prior approval" from the U.S. On the contrary, the agreement clearly provides for reprocessing the spent fuel as a matter of time: "When any special nuclear material utilised in the Tarapur atomic power station requires reprocessing...such reprocessing may be performed in Indian facilities upon a joint determination of the parties that the provisions of Article VI of this agreement may be effectively applied, or in such other facilities as may be mutually agreed."

And the provisions of the article specified deal solely with the technical safeguardability of the Indian facility making use of the special nuclear material supplied for the Tarapur plant.

It is noteworthy that the U.S. position concerning its "veto" on reprocessing Tarapur fuel is derived solely from its own Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978 which specifies "prior approval of the U.S." for reprocessing U.S.-supplied nuclear fuel as one of the conditions or "criteria" governing exports of nuclear fuel, components or technology.

When India decided in 1967 to build a reprocessing plant at Tarapur, it forwarded the relevant design information to the U.S. to facilitate "joint determination" of safeguardability. In late 1968, the U.S. officials informed India that the design would be consistent with effective application of safeguards as required under the 1963 agreement.

Responsibility Transferred to IAEA

Under the 1971 trilateral agreement involving the International Atomic Energy Agency, responsibility for implementing safeguards at the reprocessing facility for Tarapur fuel was relinquished by the U.S. and transferred to the IAEA.

In fact, the trilateral agreement provides that the rights of the U.S. Government under Article VI of the 1963 agreement "to implement the safeguards provision" will be "suspended with respect to materials, equipment or devices while subject to this agreement."

The U.S. has, naturally, not responded to India's repeated invitation to complete the technical exercise of "joint determination," thus failing to live up to a key provision in the original agreement.

These are some of the major contractual or treaty difficulties to be faced by U.S. and the Glenn proposal gains meaning only when related to these. Mr. Glenn himself has been arguing for some time that "safeguarding" a reprocessing facility is

extremely difficult, and that "plutonium recycling" ought not to be encouraged in any way by the U.S.--certainly not when the country concerned is a non-signatory to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. [as published]

The Senator uses the occasion to outline his own larger position on nuclear non-proliferation. He wants Mr. Reagan to "issue a strong statement regarding the U.S. attitude on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and on the U.S. determination not to knuckle under to the threats of other countries that demand the export of our nuclear materials without satisfying the export criteria in our laws."

He makes it clear that he is aware that so far as the Tarapur case is concerned, "the issue...is not what we can or cannot prevent the Indians from doing." In fact, "their large, unsafeguarded, indigenous programme will eventually dwarf the Tarapur programme in terms of production of weapons-usable materials."

But rather the issue "concerns the impact that our decisions in this area will have on other nations. If the most flagrant violator can obtain nuclear materials with no concessions, the message to the signatories of the NPT is that the political commitment they made in order to receive nuclear assistance has been devalued.

"An equally unfortunate message is also sent to those countries that may be going down the path of developing a weapons option themselves and to suppliers who may be aiding them to do so. We should be resolute in our determination not to engage in nuclear trade with countries that are unwilling to allow effective full-scope safeguards on their nuclear facilities. To do otherwise is to guarantee failure in obtaining international consensus on strengthening and tightening the international safeguards system." [as published]

Glenn aides said "we are leaving open" the question of drafting other Senators or Congressman behind this initiative. Political pressure on the Reagan administration to move toward ending the nuclear supply relationship with India may be expected to increase during the next few weeks.

CSO: 4220

BETTER UTILIZATION OF STEEL CAPACITY URGED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 9 Feb 81 p 15

[Article by M. Kumar]

[Text] It is probably being expected that with the installation of the integrated steel plant at Visakhapatnam, the steel problem with which the country has been faced for some years now will be eased somewhat, if not solved altogether. Such expectations are unrealistic if the real situation on the steel front is considered in detail. Briefly, the problem is not one of addition to capacity; rather, it is the utilization of existing capacity and of that which is certain to be [word missing] up in the next five years which forms the crux of the problem.

Let us first consider the contribution which the Visakhapatnam steel plant is slated to make the steel economy. The plant, which is to cost Rs 2,256 crores--not taking into account the rise in raw material prices since the computation of this figure--is to turn out three million tons of steel. Work is to start by the middle of this year and, according to its managing director, is to be "carried on on a war-footing basis and without a stop till it is commissioned". The plant's importance to the steel sector becomes clear in view of the fact that the salable steel output target for the current year is 7.3 million tons, five integrated plants being on the job. [as published]

These figures at once make it clear that capacity utilization has been dismally low of late. More important is the fact that the output trend has been falling over the recent past. Thus, salable steel output was 6.92 million tons in 1976-77, 6.89 million tons in 1977-78, 6.59 million tons in 1978-79 and 6.03 million tons in 1978-80. Production capacity has remained more or less constant over these years, implying that there has been a progressive deterioration in capacity utilization. The Steel authority people have been quick to point to shortages of power and unsuitable coal as the main factors responsible for this non-performance, and they are probably correct--but only to an extent. It can by no means be argued that efficiency in the public sector plants has been at a uniformly high level, especially when compared with the performance of the Tata Iron and Steel Company.

TISCO, too, has been facing problems of its own, but the financial position of the Steel Authority speaks for itself. During the current financial year, the authority may lose as much as Rs 100 crores having made a profit of Rs 8 crores last year and one of Rs 42 crores in the year before. The principal factor behind this showing is said to be the piling up of ingot steel at the plants resulting in poor

production, and sale, of finished steel. Given the fact that at one time the ingot stocks had swelled to 700,000 tons, one cannot dismiss this point of view as being unreasonable. But, in view of the declining trend of salable steel output, it is clear that there are other reasons as well for the disappointing performance. It is tempting to draw a parallel with Coal India which at the moment, is in the midst of a controversy over its own future.

The arguments for retaining Coal India can be applied with equal force in the case of the Steel Authority. On the other hand, just as Coal India feels that the reasons for the poor showing for the coal industry are largely beyond its control, SAIL can also argue that the problems of power, coking coal and transport are not of its own making. Distribution, however, is an area which is the sole responsibility of the steel people, and it cannot be said that there is no room for improvement, especially in the matter of stockyard location and transport facilities from stockyards to consumption points. Far too often have the authorities been accused of adopting a high-handed attitude regarding allotment of rakes or wagons as the case may be, a portion of the blame no doubt being attributable to the Railways.

Take the case of the Durgapur Steel Plant, which at one time was among the foremost integrated plants in the country. Its main complaint has been against the Damodar Valley Corporation for not supplying adequate power. But recent reports indicate that even with an improved power supply, the steel plant is still finding it difficult to meet its targets. A senior official of the plant was recently quoted as saying that, given adequate power, the plant would be able to exceed the salable steel production target fixed for the current financial year. A month later--that is in the second week of January--reports indicated that of the plant's four blast furnaces, only two were working and that too not very satisfactorily. The upshot of all this is that the Durgapur Steel Plant may end the year with the heaviest loss since its inception, totalling perhaps Rs 40 crores. In 1979-80 the loss amounted to less than Rs 20 crores.

The Union Minister for Steel and Commerce, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, has announced that a committee is being formed comprising Steel Authority directors to study modernization plants for the Durgapur plant as drawn up by British Steel Corporation. The latter has recommended an increase in the plant's capacity to two million tons a year in the expectation that profitability would rise to 10.2 per cent. In the event of capacity being increased, there is hardly any guarantee that utilization will rise parri pasu. [as published] Past experience does not suggest that this correlation will come about easily, implying in other words that a lot of money--running into hundreds of crores--will have been spent without any tangible result.

This is applicable not only to the Durgapur plant but to the steel industry in general. Steel output capacity is proposed to be doubled during the present decade from the present installed capacity of 11.4 million tons to about 22 million tons by 1990. The break-up among the individual plants is as follows: Durgapur and Rourkela are proposed to be modernized, the capacity of both Bokaro and Bhilai are to be expanded to five million tons, and Visakhapatnam is to ultimately produce 3.4 million tons. All these plans and programmes will involve an expenditure of Rs 7,000 crores, which, again, is certain to increase in view of rising prices. According to one analysis, this huge capital expenditure is being undertaken in the hope that the present low steel production from installed capacity would increase so as to cut down on imports which this year are expected to cost more

than Rs 500 crores in foreign exchange. But is there enough power and coal to support this level of production if and when the capacity is actually installed? [as published]

As far as power is concerned, notwithstanding Mr A. B. A. Ghani Khan Chowdhury's ambitious targets, the outlook is, to say the least, bleak. Coking coal imports have had to be restricted this year to 500,000 tons because of a growing shortage of foreign exchange even though the supply-demand gap is said to be about a million tons. Prospects of indigenous production rising are not particularly bright. Making steel using technology other than the conventional iron ore-coking coal-oxygen method is still a distant prospect despite the recent commissioning of the sponge iron pilot plant at Paloncha in Andhra Pradesh. Meanwhile, demand is expected to go up to 18.4 million tons by 1989-90, that is, nearly 10 million tons more than overall steel availability in 1980-81. [as published]

CSO: 4220

ENERGY MINISTER ON COAL PRICES, POWER STATION PLANS

Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Feb 81 p 7

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 6.

The Union Government has decided to increase the rates of royalty on coal by an average of about Rs. 2 a tonne. This would enable the State Governments to earn substantially higher revenue during this financial year.

Announcing the Centre's decision, the Energy Minister, Mr. A. B. A. Ghani Khan Choudhury, told the meeting of the Parliamentary consultative committee of his Ministry held here on Friday that State Governments would now get Rs. 61 crores as against Rs. 38.76 crores royalty earned by them last year.

The Minister said the new rates of royalty ranged from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 7 a tonne. The previous rates were Rs. 1 to Rs. 5 a tonne.

The revised average royalty rates work out to Rs. 5.40 a tonne against the previous average rate of Rs. 3.80 a tonne.

The Government has also decided

to increase the rate of royalty on sand for stowing from 20 paise a tonne to 40 paise.

More Super Thermal Stations

Six more super thermal power stations with a total capacity of 15,440 MW output will be taken up for execution in the Central sector.

The projects are: Wajdan 3,000 MW and Panch 840 MW (both in Madhya Pradesh), Singrauli II 3,000 MW (Uttar Pradesh), Mangru 3,000 MW (Andhra Pradesh), Talcher 2,800 MW (Orissa) and Kahalgaon 2,800 MW (Bihar).

The Minister said four super thermal power stations with a total ultimate capacity of about 7,000 MW had already been taken up for execution.

Two large hydel schemes — Dul Hasti (190 MW) in Jammu and Kashmir and Kosi Karo (710 MW) in Bihar — were also being taken up in the Central sector.—UNI.

CSO: 4220

WRITER EXAMINES PROBLEMS OF COAL PRODUCTION

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 9 Feb 81 p 13

[Article by Virendra Agarwala]

[Text] Since nationalization, nearly Rs 1,000 crores have been invested in the coal sector, a major part in the past five years. But barring in 1974-75 and 1975-76 when coal production registered a 12% to 15% increase, the actual growth has been more or less stagnant. In fact, coal output in the last three years is virtually stuck at 100 million tons.

The power crisis, rampant labour indiscipline, failure of the top management to give managerial direction and too frequent tampering with the organizational structure are some of the equally important factors that have contributed to the continuing mess in the coal sector. From this stems the doubt whether the programme of pushing coal production to 260 million tons in the next 10 years will ever be achieved given the numerous man-made constraints and, more importantly, the official unwillingness to tackle them effectively. It is obvious that the investment of Rs 3,500 crores envisaged for the next 10 years looks rather conservative.

Coal India incurred a loss of Rs 231 crores in 1979-80. According to the published figures, CIL's losses stood at Rs 167.62 crores by the end of 1976-77. The Government puts the losses at Rs 100 crores in 1977-78 and Rs 212 crores in 1978-79. With this, the cumulative losses of CIL up to the end of '78-79 reached Rs 479.68 crores. Coal prices have been increased five times in the case of coking coal and four times in that of non-coking since nationalization. As a result, the ruling prices are, on an average, 150% and 25% higher in the case of non-coking and coking coal, respectively, compared to the pre-nationalization prices.

All these price increases were allowed not only to fully neutralize the hike in coal inputs but also to enable CIL to give a net return of 10% on the capital employed. Despite the price increases, CIL has accumulated a loss of Rs 711 crores. The revision of coal prices again seems inevitable owing to the hike in oil prices. As a result of this a number of industries have switched over from oil to coal.

Corruption in the coal administration is one of the major factors that have discouraged higher coal production. It is often demanded that the Government immediately set up an autonomous energy institute and take stringent measures to check rampant corruption in coal mines. And the trade unions have failed not only to

politically educate the colliery workers but also to rouse any aspiration among the miners for a better quality of life. While the wages of the workers have gone up nearly four times since nationalization, they are as much in the grip of the moneylenders as ever before. They have not yet learnt how to use their money and a large part of it is still spent in drinking and gambling. Mines are not yet safe enough. From 1977 to 1979, 47 workers were killed in accidents in the Central Coalfields, in the Eastern Coalfields and 40 in EECL mines. [as published] Pit safety committees are in the doldrums. Even ambulances are not readily available at the work place. Negligence on the part of the management sometimes causes damage to life and property. Indiscriminate use of substandard explosives is yet another major cause of fatal accidents. Coal was nationalized to assure a fair deal to the workers and to reorganize and restructure the mines. But both the objectives have remained unfulfilled.

In all discussions of the energy crisis, it is usually said that fortunately in India, the difficulties due to the shortages and escalating prices of oil can be lessened to a significant extent by exploiting the coal reserves of the country estimated at an astronomical 111,628 million tons. By the end of the century, the country will require 427 million tons of coal a year. This estimate is based on the assumption that the recommendations made in the report for saving energy and for substitution of oil by other means will be implemented.

During the next two decades, we have to increase our coal production by nearly 327 million tons. The three sectors namely power, transport and steel, are likely to gobble up 93% of the 427 million tons expected to be available 20 years from now. Power generation alone will consume 37% of the coal. The task ahead is difficult but not impossible. Coal will replace oil as a major source of energy in the next 20 years. This would become imperative as the availability of oil would diminish, forcing the nations to rely more on coal resources. [as published]

It is unfortunate that while in the current year an enhanced target of 113 million tons has been fixed, indications are that it might prove a bit elusive. Public memory is not all that short as to forget how the authorities were forced to scale down last year's target from 118 million tons to 113 million tons and later to 106 million tons and how ultimately the economy has to settle for 104 million tons. Producing centres suggest that the vicious circle of power famine and labour indiscipline has virtually thrown out of gear all production schedules. A coal famine has been predicted, therefore, a total revamping of the coal industry, with special emphasis on decentralization both in production and management is considered imminent.

Needless to say, there has been no appreciable rise in efficiency in the coal industry since nationalization nine years ago. This is not to say that the sector should be denationalized, but surely private firms can be allowed to do some mining under special licence. The immediate need is to raise output, and there is no reason why cooperation offered by the private sector should not be utilized.

It is laudable that the Government is considering inviting foreign assistance in tapping the country's coal reserves. If the Government can indicate its preference for negotiating with foreign countries, there is hardly any reason why private organizations known for their capacity should not be allowed to operate the virgin coal mining areas.

The Coal India authorities are operating only 400 of the 1,925 coalmines. It has been suggested that 20 coal producing units should be set up, each of which can produce at least five to six million tons of coal. The argument that before 1971 miners worked in inhuman conditions should not stand in the way of such cooperation. Agencies such as the proposed coalmine safety board could be provided with wide powers of supervision and control so far as this aspect of mining is concerned.

Coal production is slated to rise from 104 million tons in 1979-80 to 160 million tons in 1982-83. How far is this target feasible? The issue is not just one of providing adequate financial resources but of restructuring the production facilities in the mines. Continuing schemes--that is, schemes whose implementation has lagged--are estimated to boost production capacity by 17 million tons to 117 million tonnes in 1982-83. [as published] This is virtually the only firm programme. Output from new mines is projected at 26 million tons but the basic plans for these have yet to get off the drawing boards. The reckoning is that not more than five million tons of new capacity will be created in the medium term and the balance will spill over beyond 1982-83. Reconstruction of existing mines is expected to yield 17 million tons. [as published] In sum, against 160 million tons, the realistic target is placed at around 140 million tons.

C80: 4220

INDIA

BRIEFS

DELHI SUPERSESSION UPHELD--New Delhi, February 6 (PTI): The Delhi high court today upheld the supersession of the Delhi municipal corporation by the Central government on April 11, 1980. A writ petition, challenging the constitutional validity of the opposition-dominated civic body, dismissed by a division bench of three judges with a majority of two to one. The petition was filed in the high court by Mr. S. C. Khandelwal, deputy mayor in the superseded corporation, contesting the grounds of supersession which include "persistent default, abuse of power and incompetence." While the validity of the supersession was declared valid by Mr. Justice Avadh Behari and Mr. Justice S. S. Chadha, Mr. Justice H. L. Anand, in his dissenting judgement, held the order of the Central government void but maintained the status quo until the Central government considered the matter afresh. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 Feb 81 p 1]

KERALA FRONT TROUBLES--Trivandrum, February 6: The relations between the CPM and the Congress (U), the two leading partners of the ruling front, have been strained considerably during the last one week. The activities of the Youth Congress (U), which has emerged as an anti-CPM force within the ruling front, have contributed to the deterioration in the relations between the front partners. The recent demonstration of the Kerala Students' Union (U) at Quilon where they raised anti-CPM slogans was a clear indication of the political trend within the front organisation of the Congress (U). One of the slogans reportedly raised by the demonstrators was "in sixty it was sandalwood and in eighty it was spirit." The reference was to the inquiry into a forest contract in which the then forest minister, Mr. M. K. Krishnan (CPM), came in for some harsh remarks from the commission. Mr. Krishnan is now the minister for excise and is facing the spirit scandal. The two Communist parties and the youth front of the ruling Kerala Congress have come out strongly against what they described as the "splitting activities" of the Youth Congress (U). [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 Feb 81 p 1]

STATE TRADING CHAIRMAN--New Delhi, Feb. 6. Mr. P. K. Kaul will be Chairman of the State Trading Corporation, in addition to his duties as the Commerce Secretary. The appointment is consequent on the expiry of the term of Dr. S. C. Bhattacharjee as the STC Chief.--PTI. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Feb 81 p 7]

MARXIST-LENINIST APPEAL--New Delhi, Feb. 6.--The provisional central committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) has appealed to the non-aligned conference to support the Afghan and Kampuchean liberation struggles. In a statement issued today, the CPI(M-L) leadership has charged the Government with taking an equivocal position on the Afghan and Kampuchean issues. [Text] [Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 8 Feb 81 p 12]

AHMEDABAD LOCAL ELECTIONS--Mr. Rafiuddin Sheikh and Mr. Jethalal Parmar, both Congress(I), were today re-elected mayor and deputy mayor, respectively of the city. They defeated their Bhartiya Janata Party rivals, Mr. Jayendra Pandit and Mr. Gopalbhai Solanki, at the first meeting of the newly-elected 105-member general board of the civic body. The Janata party, which is the second largest party after the BJP, did not field any candidate. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 9 Feb 81 p 9]

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES--New Delhi, Feb. 6.--Foreign exchange earnings from "invisibles"--mainly inward remittances from Indians working in West Asia and other countries--reached the record level of Rs 4,467 crores in 1980 compared with Rs 2,775 crores in 1979 and Rs 2,219 crores in 1978. Despite this, the foreign exchange reserves fell by around Rs 400 crores after taking into account borrowings from the International Monetary Fund of Rs 812 crores. This was mainly because of the growing trade deficit which is estimated to be more than Rs 4,500 crores in 1980-81 and is the main reason for the large gap in the balance of payments. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 7 Feb 81 p 1]

AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURE PLANS--New Delhi, Feb. 6.--The small car--or the public sector people's car--should be on the road in 1983, according to the Union Minister of State for Industry, Mr Charanjit Chaudhary, who returned here today from his tour of the U.K. and France. Mr Chaudhary said that his Ministry expected to receive by March detailed proposals for the manufacture of fuel-efficient models of cars and vehicles from the automobile manufacturers in France, England, West Germany and Japan. The detailed project outlines submitted by different manufacturers would be examined. The Government desired that the public sector car project should be ready and vehicle on the road in 1983 at the latest, he said. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 7 Feb 81 p 1]

WEST BENGAL 'TERRORISTS'--New Delhi, Feb. 6.--The All India Congress Committee (I) general secretary, Mrs Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, alleged yesterday that as many as 260 Congress (I) workers had been killed in West Bengal in the past one year by CPI(M) "terrorists", reports UNI. [as published] She told reporters that political murders struck at the very root of democracy. Her party was against the cult of violence. Answering a question, she said her party was not planning to topple the CPI(M)-led Left Front Government in West Bengal. "We shall deal with it politically", she added. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 7 Feb 81 p 14]

NEW COTTON VARIETIES--Bangalore, February 7: New varieties of high-yielding cotton plants have been evolved by the University of Agricultural Sciences here. One variety called CPD-8-1 has already been released. It has yielded upto 11 quintals of "kapas" per hectare under assured rainfed conditions in Dharwar, against 6.4 quintals of an earlier variety, Laxmi. In a review of the university, the vice-chancellor, Dr. R. Dwarkanath, said that in the field of foodgrains, the new varieties of ragi, a coarse grain, had made Karnataka self-sufficient in food. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 9 Feb 81 p 20]

JAMMU REOPENINGS--The Jammu and Kashmir Government has decided to reopen all educational institutions in Jammu district in stages. These institutions, including Jammu University, were closed on January 22, in the wake of about a month-long agitation launched by Jammu students, during which there were over a dozen incidents of arson and rioting. Announcing this decision of the State Government here on Wednesday, the Minister of State for Education, Mohammed Shaffi, said that this decision was taken after parents of students and MLAs of Jammu district had assured principals of all closed educational institutions that they would persuade their children to give up their agitation when one of their main demands--restoration of normal power as well as drinking water supply to the Jammu area--was conceded by the State Government. Mr Shaffi said the students fears that the Kashmir and Jammu Universities Bill, 1980, which was before the State Legislature, would erode the autonomy of the universities was unsounded. The Bill had been introduced last year to achieve greater coordination and liaison between the two universities, and not to interfere in their working. [Text] [Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 8 Feb 81 p 12]

UNIVERSITY GRANTS HEAD--New Delhi, February 5: The appointment of Dr. (Mrs.) Madhuri R. Shah as head of the university grants commission was formally announced today. The normal term of the chairman of the UGC is five years or until completion of the age of 65 years. She is 62. Besides the full-time chairman and vice-chairman, the UGC consists of nine members who hold part-time office. Dr. Shah, who succeeds Mr. Satish Chandra, has been vice-chancellor of SNDT Women's University, Bombay, for the last six years. She had earlier served in various capacities in the Bombay municipal corporation and Bombay University. Reputed for her innovative programmes in science education, she has also held high positions in professional organisations at home and abroad and served several committees of the UGC. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Feb 81 p 5]

CONGRESS(U) PARLEY--Aurangabad, February 5: Mr. Sharad Pawar, president of the MPCC(U) and leader of opposition in the state assembly, said here today that some 75,000 party workers would attend the three-day AICC(U) session to be held here from May 15. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Feb 81 p 9]

TATA STEEL MODERNIZATION--The Tata Iron and Steel Co. has signed a loan agreement with Lazard Brothers and Co., U.K., for a £14-million long-term project line of credit for TISCO's modernisation programme. According to the agreement signed here last week by Mr. J. R. D. Tata, chairman of TISCO, the funds will be provided by Lazards, Grindlays Bank, Midland Bank and the State Bank of India. The credit is backed by Export Credit Guarantee Department (ECGD), U.K., and bears an interest of 7-1/2 per cent per annum. Tata Steel has further arranged for a loan of \$38 million from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in Washington. Local currency requirements will be met by the Steel Development Fund and by Indian financial institutions led by the Industrial Development Bank of India. Contracts covered by this line of credit and already awarded relate to the oxygen steel-making facilities including flux handling system and gas cleaning system and two 250-tonne per day oxygen plants. The programme is aimed at conserving 65,000 tonnes of scarce fuels, saving Rs. 60 crores in foreign exchange and producing an additional 190,000 tonnes of steel, every year. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Feb 81 p 10]

SENIOR ARMY OFFICERS RETIRE

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 16 Dec 80 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Total of 96 Senior Army Officers Retire"]

[Text] Some 96 high-ranking Army officers have officially reached the retirement age, and they and their wives were bid farewell by Army Chief of Staff Gen Poniman and his wife at a ceremony at the conference hall of Army Headquarters on Monday [15 December].

Among the high-ranking officers who are retiring are Gen (Wartime) Daryatmo (chairman of Parliament), Lt Gen (Wartime) H Alamsyah Ratu Perwiranegara (minister of religion), Maj Gen (Wartime) Bustanil Arifin (deputy minister of cooperatives and chief of the Bureau of Logistics). Of those retiring, three are governors: Lt Gen (Wartime) Tjokropranolo (governor of the Indonesian Cooperative Council), Maj Gen (Wartime) E W P Tambunan (governor of North Sumatra), Maj Gen (Wartime) Hasan Slamet (governor of Maluku).

Several of those retiring hold the rank of secretary general, inspector general, or director general, including: Lt Gen (Wartime) Sarwo Edhie Wibowo (inspector general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Maj Gen (Wartime) Dr Oemar Said (director general of Village Development, Ministry of Internal Affairs), and Maj Gen (Wartime) Soeryadi (director general of the Post Office, Ministry of Communications).

Other high ranking officers retiring include: Maj Gen (Wartime) Dr August Marpaung (a director of Antara News Agency), Maj Gen (Wartime) Slamet Danudirdjo (deputy chairman of the National Development Planning Body [BAPPENAS]), Maj Gen (Wartime) Sumrahadi (member of Parliament), Maj Gen (Wartime) Aswaswamo, Brig Gen (Wartime) Moenafri (former governor of Central Sulawesi), Brig Gen Acub Zenal (former governor of Irian Jaya) and so forth.

High-ranking officers who have been released for retirement by the chief of staff of the Army, General Poniman, include three full generals: Maknun Murod, Widodo, and Daryatmo. Also included are eight lieutenant generals: Alamsyah Ratuperwira Negara, A J Witono Sarsanto, H R Dharsono, Wahono, Tjokropranolo, Soetanto W, Sarwo Edhi Wibowo, and Achmad Wiranatakusumah. In addition, 39 major generals will be retiring, including: Ach Ishak Djuarsa, Moeng Parhadi Muljo, Soenarso, Dr Kunto Adji, Dr Gatot Soewagyo, Soegiri Soemodarsono, Dr Sri Hardiman, A E Manihuruk, Elly Sungkono, Ateng Yogasara, Dr Inam Soekarsono,

Dr Nasrun Syahrin, Aswis Marmo, R Prapto Prayitno, Sahid Danuwidjojo, Slamet Danusudirdjo, and Sumrahadi. Further, 46 brigadier generals will be retiring, including: R M Soebroto Kosmardjo, Acub Zaenal, Arifin Achmad, Dr G P H Haryo Mataram, Eddy Soegardo, Sukarmen, Dr Imam Soedarno, Soesidarto, A M Tambunan, Suluh Djumadi, Dr Datuk Mulya, Abdul Kadir, M Soegeng Widjaya, Martodihardjo, Dr Eddy Murthy Abdul Kadir, and Soedarman Bancearli.

Of the 96 high ranking officers 4 of them did not attend: General (Wartime) Makmun Hurod, Indonesian Ambassador to Malaysia, and General (Wartime) Widodo. The retirement certificate of General Widodo was recently delivered to him by the Army chief of staff at his residence in Kebayoran Baru. Two others could not attend because they have died: Maj Gen (Wartime) Sumardja Adijaya and Brig Gen (Wartime) Lukmanul Ichwan Anwar. Their retirement certificates were delivered to their respective families.

Attending the retirement ceremony, among other persons, were the deputy chairman of the Supreme Advisory Council, Gen (Wartime) Djatikusumo; the general chairman of PEPABRI [Union of Retired Members of the Armed Forces], Widyapranata; the chief of staff of the civilian functions department of the Ministry of Defense and Security, Lt Gen Kharis Suhud; the commanding general of AKABRI, Lt Gen Soesilo Soedarman; and high ranking staff officers of Army Headquarters and other invited guests.

There Is No Limit

Army Chief of Staff General Poniman, in his speech at the retirement ceremony emphasized that there is no time limit for soldiers who sacrificed themselves for the country, nation, and state. Therefore, although they are officially no longer on active duty in the Army, in an unofficial and spiritual way they still have a close relationship with their "alma mater, the Army." They can provide help in the form of their thoughts, opinions, and moral support, which are necessary for the Army. In the same way if, at times, the nation and state call on them, they are a very powerful element in the national reserves, said the Army chief of staff.

General Poniman said that their retirement as officers in the Army is exclusive because they have officially reached retirement age, in accordance with the law of nature. However, this is no obstacle for them to continue to provide their services to the Army by means of their useful thoughts.

A Gift of Rice

After the formal program was over, the Army chief of staff personally delivered a Kartika Eka Paksi sword to each of the retiring officers. To their wives was also given a letter of appreciation for their loyalty in accompanying their beloved husbands in the course of their duties, until reaching retirement age. To the eldest officer retiring, General (Wartime) Daryatmo, the Army chief of staff gave a symbolic plate of rice as a sign of appreciation from the young to the old. General Daryatmo and his wife then gave a symbolic plate of rice to a student in the Army Officer Candidate School and a fourth year student in the Army section of AKABRI.

Lt Gen Alamsyah and Lt Gen A J Witono and their wives gave a small coconut tree to be planted as a symbol of the continuation of generations in the Army.

However, generals are also human beings, and they showed signs of happiness and joked with each other. When the official ceremony was over, they greeted each other and expressed regret that they had not seen each other for a long time. They have been involved in their own affairs and at times are separated by distance outside of Jakarta. "Why, aren't you Hasan?" asked a two-star general of the governor of Maluku, Maj Gen (Wartime) Hasan Slamet, and his wife. However, Hasan did not reply in the same Sundanese dialect but spoke in the dialect of Maluku, at which the other guests broke out laughing.

One of the wives was kissing all of her friends, because she had not seen them for more than 10 years. "We're the same as always," they said, in short.

The atmosphere was happy and relaxed when they all had lunch together.

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CSO: 4213

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

[Unless otherwise noted, the following information on Indonesian personalities has been extracted from Indonesian language sources published in Jakarta.]

MUNAWIR SADZALI--Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar Kusumaatmadja on Tuesday [30 December] installed in office the new director general of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Munawir Sadzali, who replaced Chaidir Anwarsani. In his speech on the occasion the minister admitted that in the ministry preparations were still inadequate to cope with the period of transition for officials exchanging positions and that this had become one of the principal problems. According to Mochtar, the lack of preparation was a consequence of the 30 September/PKI incident 15 years ago, although in fact, during this period of time, there should have been enough opportunity to deal with the situation. That is why, the minister continued, Anwarsani's skills still continued to be used, to the point that it was he who submitted his resignation. Munawir Sadzali was born in Klaten [Central Java] on 7 November 1925, attending a number of schools, including the Islamic high school "Mambaul Ulum" in Surakarta, the Diplomatic and Consular Course at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the University of Exeter in Great Britain, and Georgetown University in the United States. Before entering the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1950 he was a teacher at the Islamic elementary school "Gunung Pati Ungaran" in Semarang. He served in the Islamic Militia Group [Badan Kelaskaran Islam] during the struggle for independence and was a voluntary assistant to the mayor of Surakarta. Munawir has served as third secretary and attache in the Indonesian Embassy in Washington, as first secretary in the Indonesian Embassy in Colombo and later as charge d'affaires and minister counselor in Colombo, and subsequently as minister and deputy chief of mission in the Indonesian Embassy in London. Before returning to Indonesia he served as ambassador to the Emirate of Kuwait and was also accredited to Bahrain, Qatar, and the Union of Arab Emirates, and then returned to the ministry as a staff adviser of the minister of foreign affairs. The new director general of the Political Department is also an associate member of the "International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)" in London. [Excerpts] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 31 Dec 80 p 12]

ATMONO SURYO--Minister of Foreign Affairs Mochtar Kusumaatmadja on Tuesday [30 December] installed Atmono Suryo in office as the secretary general of the National Secretariat for ASEAN, replacing Umarjadi Nyotowijono. Atmono has served successively in Mexico, Geneva, and the Indonesian Embassy in Washington. Until 1978 he was ambassador to Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg,

as well as chief of the Indonesian Permanent Delegation to the EEC. From August, 1978, until November, 1980, Atmono was deputy permanent representative of Indonesia at the UN office in Geneva. Meanwhile, Umarjadi Njotowojono, who was replaced by Atmono Suryo, will immediately proceed to his new post in Paris as secretary general of CIPEC [Intergovernmental Council of Copper Exporting Countries]. [Text] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 31 Dec 80 p 12]

COL SOEMANTO--The post of chief of staff of Defense Area II was recently transferred from the former incumbent, Brig Gen Naya Iskandar, to the new occupant, Col (Artillery) Soemanto. The ceremony involving the transfer of office was carried out simply at the parade ground of Defense Area II at Jalan Reksobayan 4 in Yogyakarta, attended by the officers, noncommissioned officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees of Defense Area II. Col Soemanto was previously assistant for reserve affairs on the General Staff of Defense Area II, while Brig Gen Naya Iskandar will be transferred to the staff of the Ministry of Defense and Security as assistant for reserve affairs in the Ministry/KOPKAMTIB. After this ceremony was over, at the Serba Cuna building at the headquarters of Defense Area II there was a transfer of office ceremony involving the position of chairman of the IKKH [Ministry of Defense and Security Family Welfare Association] branch in Yogyakarta, from the former chairman, Mrs Naya Iskandar, to the new chairman, Mrs Soemanto. The transfer of office ceremony was attended by members of the headquarters staff of Defense Area II and members of the staff of the IKKH branch in Yogyakarta. [Excerpt] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 24 Dec 80 p 6]

BRIG GEN EDDY NALAPRAYA--A ceremony for turning over the office of chief of staff of Military Region V/Greater Jakarta and the office of chief of staff for daily affairs of the Special Branch for Greater Jakarta has been held [no date given in this excerpt]. The acting chief of staff, Brig Gen Bambang Sinarodjo, transferred the office to his replacement, Brig Gen Eddy Nalapraya. The new incumbent, up to the present, was chief of staff of the Capital Garrison. He was born in Jakarta on 6 June 1931. He entered the Army with the rank of sergeant on 21 July 1947 at Tasikmalaya and only entered Noncommissioned Officers School in 1955. Two years later he attended the second Officers Candidate School at Bandung, and up to now he is the only alumnus of this class who has reached the rank of brigadier general. He served as commander of Company C of Battalion 330 of the Siliwangi Division, when it was assigned to duty in the Congo (Garuda Troop 2) in 1960. Eddy Nalapraya, who looks like a native of Jakarta, was once also adjutant of Defense Region VI-Siliwangi, in 1961. In 1969 he became commander of the Private Guard Detachment of the president of Indonesia, and 3 years later attended the Army Command and General Staff College in the United States. Other positions to which he has been assigned include the post of deputy assistant for operations in the office of chief of staff of Military Region V/Greater Jakarta, assistant for security affairs on the staff of the Garrison Command of Jakarta, assistant for intelligence in the office of the chief of staff of Military Region V/Greater Jakarta, and chief of staff of the Capital Garrison until his assumption of his new duties. [Excerpt] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUMAB in Indonesian 26 Dec 80 p 8]

GEN YOGA SUGAMA--With the transfer of this office, Gen Yoga Sugama will concentrate on another position which he will continue to hold as chief of the State Intelligence Coordinator's Office [BAKIN]. In May, 1981, according to Gen Yoga, he will be 56 years old, and he should have retired from active military life at age 55. However, because the country still seemed to need his services, his retirement date was postponed until May, 1981. According to Gen Yoga, the position of chief of staff of KOPKAMTIB should be held by a military officer on active duty. "I want to retire from military life, so it is right to give an opportunity to another person who is suitable for the position. I think that Gen Widjojo Suyono is the proper person," he said. Concerning his position as chief of BAKIN, which he continues to hold, this is not a military organization as in the case of the post of chief of staff of KOPKAMTIB. Therefore, it may be held by anyone, including himself, even if he retires later on. However, all of this is a matter for decision by the government. "As far as I am concerned, it would be better for me simply to retire from all positions," he added. This is because if he wishes to remain as chief of BAKIN, it means that his status is that of a monthly-paid employee, which must continuously be extended. "So I will lose money from my 35 years' service in ABRI. Wouldn't it be better for me to stop working and just receive my pension," he asked. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB 29 Dec 80 p 1]

LT GEN WIDJOJO SOEYONO--Lt Gen Widjojo Soeyono, who was born in Tulung Agung on 1 May 1928, until he was assigned to the post of chief of staff of KOPKAMTIB, with effect from the transfer of office on 28 December, had been serving as commander of Defense Area II. According to present plans, in the near future he will transfer that office to his replacement who, according to various sources, is Lt Gen Wiyogo (at present commander of Defense Area I). Widjojo began his education in a Dutch school for natives [HIS] and a technical school during the Dutch colonial period. During the Japanese occupation he was a member of the PETA (Defenders of the Fatherland), which was his first step toward a military career. Later he served during the independence struggle in the BKR, and up to the present has been considered a highly reliable military officer. His military training has included the Army Staff and Command School in 1957 and the regular course at the U.S. Command and General Staff College at Fort Knox [sic; should be Fort Leavenworth] in 1963-1964. Important positions which he has held include that of commander of Infantry Battalions 511, 505, and 514. He was commander of Infantry Brigade 3 (Parachutists) of KOSTRAD and was simultaneously commander of Task Force II and the Air Border District [LINUD Mandala] at the time of the Triple People's Command [TRIKORA]. Later, he was commander of Combat Command [KOPUR] IV/KOSTRAD and also commander of Task Force Mandala/Mandala Siaga until 1967. He was commander of special troops and a special staff officer in RPKAD from 1967 to 1970. He was commander of Military Region XIII/Merdeka until 1971, commander of Military Region VIII/Brawijaya until 1975, commander of Defense Area III from 1975 to 1977, and commander of Defense Area II from 21 January 1978 to the present. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 29 Dec 80 p 1]

DR PARTOMO M ALIBAZAH--The remains of the Indonesian ambassador to UNESCO, Dr Partomo Mugiharjo Alibazah (50 years old), on Thursday [25 December] were buried in Cibatok cemetery, Bogor, with Minister of Education and Culture Daed Joesoef presiding over the ceremony. The deceased died in Paris on 18 December at 4:30 p.m. after suffering a heart attack. The remains of the deceased arrived at Halim Perdanakusumah airport on Wednesday, 24 December. Inspector General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sarwo Edhie, who accepted the remains at the airport, turned them over to the family of the deceased. Later, a wake was held at the official residence of the acting coordinator of higher teachers' training, Dr Girindo Pringgodigdo (a younger brother-in-law of the deceased), on Jalan Daksinapati on the campus of the University of Indonesia at Rawamangun. Minister of Information J B Sumarlin and a number of other officials joined in the mourning. The deceased left a wife and three sons. Dr Partomo was born in Bandung on 3 July 1930. After completing his medical training at the University of Indonesia in 1959 he did advanced studies in genetics at the University of California in Berkeley and obtained a further doctoral degree there. From 1961 to 1969 he was chief of the Biology Department of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Indonesia. From 1963 to 1968 he was assistant dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Indonesia, and from 1974 to 1977 he was first assistant rector of the University of Indonesia (assistant rector for academic affairs). When he was assistant rector, he was also secretary of the CMS (Consortium of Medical Sciences). The chairman of the CMS is Dr Mahar Mardjono, rector of the University of Indonesia. From the Ministry of Defense and Security Dr Partomo also received honors for his services to LEMHANAS (National Defense Institute). In October, 1977, he was appointed Indonesian ambassador to UNESCO, which has its headquarters in Paris. Before the remains of the deceased were moved to Bogor on Thursday [25 December], the rector of the University of Indonesia, Dr Mahar, discussed the efforts of the deceased in the field of education, and especially in medical education. "I learned a great deal from the deceased," Dr Mahar stated. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 26 Dec 80 pp 1, 9]

AIR COMMODORE RAMLI SUMARDI--People's hobbies indeed are of many kinds. From just collecting stamps, foreign currency, and animals, they extend to priceless antiques and paintings. However, collecting old aircraft no longer on the flightline has been the hobby of Air Commodore Ramli Sumardi for more than 10 years. During that time he has collected seven old aircraft. Thanks to his perseverance in maintaining and repairing them, a large proportion of the old aircraft are already able to fly again. Indeed, one of them, a Door Nier model, is the oldest of them, produced in 1927! His career in the world of flight began in 1945 when he completed his education at the Sen Moo Kokyo Gaku, at the level of the present technical high school. Before that, beginning in 1945, he had been active in the Students' Army [Tentara Pelajar] and then the Students' Engineer Army [Tentara Zeni Pelajar]. His career in the Air Force began when he completed his training at Kalijati, in Subang, in 1954, where he was finally chief of the airport office. However, in his free time he repaired and flew aircraft. "It's a hobby which is hard to let go of," said the father of six children. The beginning of his collection was when he saw a "Harvard" aircraft "squatting" at Kemayoran airfield. The aircraft was later moved to Halim Perdanakusumah and then flown after it was repaired.

However, his duty as a member of the armed forces required service wherever he was assigned. Beginning in 1960 he was assigned as the regional war authority for Sumatra [PEPERDA-I] in Palembang. The old aircraft which he successfully repaired turned out to be helpful in carrying on his duties. For 6 months he came and went between Palembang and Jakarta in his old Harvard. And during that time also he was busy repairing a Grumman Goose, an aircraft made in 1933 which had disappeared from the air.

He was forced to leave the old Harvard behind him because for the Palembang-Jakarta flights it was more appropriate to use the Grumman Goose. However, he also left this aircraft in Palembang, because he was assigned as Wing Commander for Training-02 at Margahyu airfield in Bandung.

In this new location he saw another old Harvard which had not functioned for a long time. Again, his hobby found a way to repair it.

The flyer who had the hobby of collecting and repairing old aircraft was later transferred again. He was designated deputy commander of KOPPAU [Central Air Defense Command] (now KOPASGAT) [Air Defense Troop Command]. After that, the Grumman Goose which had been left behind in Palembang was taken back. After fussing with it and repairing the aircraft, it flew again and was turned into his private plane.

The tireless collector of old aircraft was finally successful in adding again to his collection, thanks to transfers to various places in Indonesia. In 1966, when he was assigned as commander of Air Region II/Kalimantan, in Banjarmasin, for the umpteenth time his gaze was directed to an old Otter aircraft, belonging to the Merpati airline company. Seeing the aircraft sitting there without maintenance, he felt an uncontrollable desire return to own the aircraft. He made an offer, and it was accepted. Again the aircraft, which had been missing many parts, was successfully flown again.

The duties assigned to him were certainly not getting any lighter. For in 1969, in addition to being commander of Air Region II he was assigned to training at the National Defense Institute in Jakarta. However, when he attended a commander's call formation in Yogyakarta at Lanu Adisucipto airfield, his heart skipped a beat when he saw a Lockheed aircraft there. He got busy in repairing the aircraft, which belonged to the Air Force and had been taken off the flying list in 1965. He worked on the aircraft on Saturdays and Sundays, when there were no classes. Over a period of about 1 year everything on the aircraft was fixed up. "I tested the aircraft and flew it myself," he said, showing his joy.

In 1970 he took the plane to Biak, when he became deputy commander of Defense Area VI/Maluku and Irian Jaya. It turned out that in his new area of assignment his eye fell again on an old Otter Amphibian aircraft, belonging to Merpati.

Without thinking much about it he set about rebuilding the aircraft, which was nearly a mass of junk, until finally it could fly again. Indeed, he was once prohibited from flying the aircraft, because it was considered to be too old.

However, he was given permission to fly it again after the aircraft underwent a careful check. Regarding the Otter Amphibian which later became his faithful companion, indeed he once had his own reservations. The aircraft had once been used as a Search and Rescue aircraft in the search for the late Maj Surendo, when he crashed in his Skyvan aircraft into the ocean near Biak Island! His devious efforts to pursue his hobby of collecting and repairing old aircraft were not yet over. He wanted to continue, although in fact, in 1973 he was appointed inspector general of the Air Force in Jakarta. In addition to his daily activity he was still busy using his spare time to complete repairs on a Piper Cub and a Harvard BT-13. However, the latter aircraft still needed further repairs. "The gasoline tank still leaked fairly often," Ramli said.

Six years later, in 1979, Air Commodore Ramli Sumardi was transferred again. This time he was designated principal director of Merpati Nusantara Airline. At this time his collection of old aircraft increased, when he bought the Door Nier aircraft, made in 1927, which had been sitting for a long time, out of repair, at Kemayoran airport. As in the case of the previous old aircraft, he made repair after repair until finally it was able to fly again. The small, two engined aircraft was later given the registration number of AR-2801. "A" means "transport"; "R" means "light"; the figure "28" is the identification number of the mode; and "01" is the number of the aircraft itself. Of his collection of aircraft he does not have any at his home. Some are kept at Kalijati field in Subang, and others are at Husen Sastranegara field, in Bandung.

He was born on 27 March 1927 in Kediri, East Java. Ramli Sumardi really began his military career in the Army. "However, since I was a child, I have always liked technical matters," he said, explaining the background to his hobby, when he met a KOMPAS representative at his home at Jalan Imam Bonjol 20, in Bandung.

His preference in this area was increasingly directed after he went into the Army during the revolution and the independence war. "The problem was that at the time repair and reequipment was not yet possible to do, in the sense of replacing old material with the new. Our ability was challenged to repair equipment with what was available." The simple way of working he still applies in repairing old aircraft which are still capable of functioning. Not infrequently, in meeting his needs for aircraft spare parts he must go outside the market. "I bought a compressor in Pasar Glodok, and wrenches and a tool for cleaning bushings were bought in the public market," says this high-ranking officer, who has the objective of setting up an "Air Museum." The museum would specifically be filled with aircraft which really could fly, not just nonfunctioning aircraft. "It's a pity if things are left like that," he added.

Because of his love for old aircraft, in his more than 50 years of life Ramli still is busy keeping up his physical condition as a fighter pilot. This was shown by his daring in performing the test flight of an F-51 Mustang at Husen Sastranegara field in Bandung in the middle of last October. The F-51 Mustang was surplus from Fighter Squadron 3. "Another Mustang is still at Abdurachman Saleh field in Malang," he said.

The hobby of collecting and repairing old aircraft seems not to be fading from his heart. "It will be difficult if I feel content," he says, showing his heart's preference.

However, the hobby takes time, money, and personal attention, and at times it is not always appreciated. "I was once kidded for being a trash man," he says with a laugh. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 30 Dec 80 pp 1, 12]

MAJ GEN JULIUS HENUHILI--Maj Gen Julius Henuhili, who is presently chief of the National Reserve Center (KAPUSCADNAS), on Monday [29 December] will receive a new assignment as commanding general of the Indonesian Armed Forces Academy (AKABRI), replacing Lt Gen Soesilo Soedarman. The transfer of office ceremony will be held at the headquarters of AKABRI on Jalan Gondangdia Lama in Jakarta. Minister of Defense and Security and commander of the Armed Forces Gen M Jusuf will be in charge of the ceremony. According to reliable sources, the post of chief of the National Reserve will be held by Brig Gen M Saleh, who is currently commander of Military Region I/Iskandar Muda, in Aceh. [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 29 Dec 80 p 12]

LT GEN SOESILO SOEDARMAN--On 29 December Lt Gen Soesilo Soedarman will transfer his post as commanding general of AKABRI to Maj Gen Julius Henuhili. According to a number of sources, Lt Gen Soesilo will be given a new post as commander of Defense Area I, replacing Lt Gen Widjojo Soejono, who last Saturday [27 December] assumed his new post as chief of staff of KOPKANTIB, replacing Gen Yoga Soegama. [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 29 Dec 80 p 12]

MAJ GEN JULIUS HENUHILI--The post of commanding general of AKABRI on Monday [29 December] was transferred from the former incumbent, Lt Gen Susilo Sudarman, to his replacement, Maj Gen Julius Henuhili. The ceremony, which took place at the hall of AKABRI headquarters, was witnessed by Minister of Defense and Security Gen M. Jusuf. Maj Gen Henuhili previously was chief of the National Reserve Center, while Lt Gen Susilo Sudarman will hold a new post as commander of Defense Area I-Sumatra/West Kalimantan. The two commands are the highest commands in the Ministry of Defense and Security. In his speech Gen Jusuf said that this exchange of command was in the framework of transfers which have been decided on throughout ABRI at the end of the year and the beginning of 1981. "All of this is in the framework of our efforts at continuing the consolidation of the entire ABRI structure, both in Jakarta and in the various regions," the minister said. The minister said that Lt Gen Susilo Sudarman had dedicated himself to building AKABRI during more than 3 years by many steps which he had taken for improvements in preparing for personnel requirements for ABRI for the present and future. The steps which had been taken should be carried on by the new commanding general who, according to the minister of defense and security, is really no stranger to AKABRI from the time of its development following the proclamation of independence. Addressing Maj Gen Henuhili, Jusuf urged him to be even more active, since the coming years are very important for the development of young ABRI officers. In the coming years every effort should be made to raise the level of education at AKABRI in the framework of developments in Indonesia and overseas. The effort should be undertaken always with the consideration of not being left behind in terms of the kinds of instruction which

must be given at AKABRI. "Give priority to discipline and mental training as well as character formation, which are absolute requirements for the development of our young officers at the present and in the future," Jusuf said. Maj Gen Julius Henuhili is no stranger to training in ABRI. He was born on 17 November 1928 in Lembah Tidar, Magelang, the son of a Timorese father and a Toraja mother. He is a graduate of the Military Academy in Yogyakarta in the wartime class of 1948. Other graduates of that class include Lt Gen Sajidiman, Lt Gen Susilo Sudarman, Lt Gen Yogi Supardi, Lt Gen Himawan Sutanto. Henuhili also went all the way through the ABRI education system through the National Defense Institute. He attended the Staff and Command School in Pakistan in 1961 and the National Defense Institute in 1970. Posts which he has held include commander of the Air Defense Artillery Battalion in Jakarta, 1953-1955. He was then secretary to the deputy commander of the Indonesian High Command (KOTI) and was then promoted to be chief of staff to the commander of the Army Air Defense Command (with the rank of Lt Col) in 1962. He was later secretary to the chairman of Parliament from 1967 to 1969. From December, 1971, to February, 1974, he was commander of Military Region XIII/Merdeka in Manado, before becoming deputy director of training at the Joint Staff and Command School, which later became the ABRI Staff and Command School, in Bandung. He was later promoted to be the first commander of the Joint Staff and Command School [SESKOGAB], from 1974 to 1977. From that post he was promoted to be chief of the National Reserve Center and later to be commanding general of AKABRI. He was also once deputy for operations to the commanding general of AKABRI. Maj Gen Henuhili said after the ceremony that the most useful thing which could be drawn from his experience as chief of the National Reserve Center for his new duties at AKABRI was the relationship between youth in general and university students, who must be looked at in the same way as the younger generation of Indonesia, as the sons of the Indonesian national family. Communications between the two groups and anyone else must be maintained. Henuhili said it was very important to press the youth to think more deeply so that they will have their own opinions and convictions. He added, "This is very important." Asked about his view of young officers, who are rather reserved about university students, he answered, "That is because they have not gone deeply into the question." He said there should be a law on national education. He also said that young officers should go more deeply into the development of our society and the military history of the Indonesian nation. By going more deeply into such matters and comparing them with other nations, there should be no difference of view, he added. Regarding concrete steps which he will take to improve relations between the young officers at AKABRI and university students, Maj Gen Henuhili will ask for prior approval from the Ministry of Defense and Security. However, in essence, it is organization which should be looked at as a developing matter. "In higher education there is the matter of paragraph 30 of the Constitution of 1945, that is, the reference to officer training, the regiment of university students and reserve officers. On this basis we can try to find a suitable mechanism," said Maj Gen Henuhili, [Excerpts] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 29 Dec 80 p 12]

5170

CSO: 4213

EXPATRIATE ASSOCIATION CHIEF DISCUSSES REFUGEES IN FRANCE

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 26 Dec 80 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Lao who have fled from their homeland to live in France have faced extremely difficult conditions and are horribly homesick for the country of their birth. They are treated like stateless persons.

This was revealed by Sithama, the secretary general of the Association of Lao People in France and also the leader of the delegation of that group who visited Laos. The others were Sengphet Amphonsin, Mrs Banyen, Savat, and Angden Miseuden. He spoke to our reporter on the morning of 25 December 1980, stating that there are now in France 4,500,000 aliens, of whom 36,000 are Lao refugees. Among the Lao refugees are several groups, such as 1) other foreigners who formerly conducted business in Laos and after the liberation fled to France, 2) Chinese who did not live in Laos but sneaked into the Lao refugee centers in Thailand and bought their way to France by claiming they were Lao refugees, and 3) Lao Soung. Especially refugees of the latter category were settled 600 km from Paris in Guyenne. This Guyenne was formerly a prison. It is an arid area and the climate is dry. Rice [as published] yields per hectare are only 300-400 kg. Some Lao went to work as employees at an automobile plant, or washing dishes and cleaning in buildings and restaurants, or guarding a shoe store, as laborers, and other jobs that the French won't do.

Sithama and his group said that Lao refugees, before they were accepted to go to France, had to sign an agreement with their sponsors, stating "When I reach France and have work I will repay the cost of the airplane ticket (1,000 dollars per person or 4,500 francs)". When they arrived in France, before they had any work, it was unbearably difficult for the refugees, because after they traveled from the refugee centers in Thailand to France, they were first put in a temporary shelter and were given subsistence allowances of 14-15 francs per day. For this money they could get only one meal. They were issued a residence permit for France for three months until they received a refugee identity card. The refugee card was limited to from one to three years. While they lived in the temporary center or until they received the refugee card, each person scurried about in confusion to find work. Each day they had to get up early to get in line to buy a newspaper to look for employment ads. However, French people were generally hired first, then they hired the aliens. This was because the number of unemployed in France was 2,500,000. Before they hired the refugees they asked to see the refugee card and the work permit. It was not at all easy to get these cards. They had to wait two to three years to obtain them. Such conditions made life for the refugees in France a time of miserable hunger and hardship. They were homesick with every breath they drew. Most of the refugees said, "We can cure other diseases, but homesickness cannot be cured."

Sithama and his group said that the Lao refugees who were working in France earned at most 2,800 francs per month. Out of this they had to pay for rent, water, electricity, transportation to work, and food, but they had to economize strictly, meaning that each month they were not able to get any clothing. Finding a house to rent was difficult. Before they could rent, besides paying one month in advance, they were charged an additional three months' rent in advance as a security deposit. For most refugees it was difficult to find a place to rent. They also had to pay an agent's fee of 500 francs.

On the subject of illness, Sithama and the delegation stated that the Lao refugees were impoverished. When anyone fell sick, he went to a hospital and had to pay 45 francs. If he had an x-ray he paid an additional 600 francs, blood test 130 francs, 150-300 francs per day for a bed, 180 francs per day for treatment, 2,500 francs for surgery, 3,000 francs to set a fracture. There were other additional costs.

Sithama spoke of those with special skills in Laos, especially all the doctors who completed their studies in France and the doctors who studied and worked in Laos and then fled to France. When they arrived in France, it was not possible for them to practice; only those who had a certificate from France would practice and they had to wait three or four years. In the meantime they had to work as coolies [as published] first.

Those who finished in Laos, but once had the title of doctor, performed their tasks as interns. Before they did that, they had to study another six months or a year. Those who had the doctor's degree but were unwilling to study further because of poor health, age, or reluctance, but wanted to stay in the medical specialty, performed duties beneath those of interns, such as bathing patients and emptying bed pans.

At the end, Sithama and the delegation spoke of the emotions of those who had come to visit their birthplace, "We feel pleasure and overflowing joy to see the people happy in participating in the development of the nation and to see the strength of national defense and security." They expressed their deep appreciation to the party and state who at all times are concerned about the patriotic Lao abroad, especially the Association of the Lao People in France. They promised they would have a part in the task of protecting the nation and building socialism under the brilliant leadership and capability of the Lao Revolutionary People's Party, with all their strength and intellect, to create a new life on the glorious path of the nation.

9615

CSO: 4206

SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICE WORKS WITH REFUGEES, COLLECTS TAXES

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 31 Dec 80 p 1

[Text] From the beginning of January to the end of December 1980 all the workers of the Social Welfare Service, Phon Hong District, Vientiane Province, determined to perform their tasks admirably.

In that period they united in various activities, such as changing money, collecting agricultural tax, collecting statistics on persons who suffered misfortune from the fire in Nam Cheng Canton, filled out requests for assistance from the higher echelon in helping the people of the villages in Nam Cheng Canton, Phon Si Canton, and the refugees in Phon Hong District. The district Social Welfare Service received relief supplies from the province on six occasions: 250 kg of milled glutinous rice, 15.1 tons of milled non-glutinous rice. There were also household goods and tools, such as 10 bags of salt, 141 blankets, 90 mosquito nets, 112 cast nets, 87 rice pots, 87 soup pots, 256 cups and dishes, 220 spoons, 124 metal buckets, 50 cast iron pots, 50 large basins, 73 shirts, 28 bath cloths, 28 axes, 111 shovels and hoes, 100 meters of black cloth, 40 meters of white cloth, 48 cans of milk, 10 cases (40 cans) of butter, 23 machetes and knives, 20 spades, and 7 children's jerseys. The people received many other items as aid with enthusiasm, from the district administrative authorities and the mass organizations.

9615

CSO: 4206

SISATTHANAK DISTRICT PRODUCTIVITY, STATISTICS ON DEVELOPMENT NOTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 25 Dec 80 pp 1, 4

[Excerpt] From the beginning of 1976 to the end of 1980 all the cadres, soldiers, organization workers, workers, and people of Sisatthanak District, Vientiane City and Province united to press forward against all obstacles. Although they met severe treachery and sabotage of the enemy, under the brilliant, correct and just leadership of the Lao Revolutionary People's Party they were able to carry out their duties, gaining glorious victory. In agriculture and irrigation they mobilized the people, the new farmers, throughout the district, to open up new ricefields and restore the abandoned fields, cultivating annual rice and dry season rice, and to open up land for fruit crops. Each year they had a total area of 938 hectares, averaging 1,300 kg of unhusked rice per hectare. Production of other cereals was several thousand kg per hectare.

They built an irrigation system of canals in three places, Hong Thong Canal, Km 4 Canal, and Thong Khi Be Canal, which together had a length of 11,380 meters. They were able to irrigate 260 hectares of dry season rice. Each year they were able to produce 2,000 kg of unhusked dry season rice per hectare. They established 18 agricultural cooperatives for intensive cultivation, with 538 member households which had 630 hectares of wet rice fields. Their rice production in the past five years increased 40 percent.

They increased livestock raising each year. By the end of 1980 throughout the district they had 1,950 water buffalo, 962 head of cattle, 3,642 pigs, 175 horses and goats, and 28,500 ducks, turkeys, geese, and brood hens.

Industry and trade: Throughout the district they improved their state enterprises and trade. They established a stock raising settlement and a rice mill. They improved the marketing system and controlled the price of goods. They set up three markets, established one district store, four restaurants, a construction unit of the district, and a handicraft business. They determined to perform their duties fully to the best of their ability.

District tax: They carried out their responsibilities fully in establishing 47 people's basic trade enterprise units. They opened 362 stores in their trade enterprise.

National defense: All the officials and people, who cooperated as ears and eyes to follow the activities of criminals, spies, enemy underground units, and other dangers to society, achieved good results.

Traffic: They determined to mobilize the people to register 2,000 bicycles. This action normalizes security, enables them very easily to arrest the enemy and criminals who cause disturbance and confusion.

9615

CSO: 4206

PHON HONG AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT NOTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 30 Dec 80 p 1

[Excerpt] In the past five years all the cadres, soldiers, police, and people of Phon Hong District, Vientiane Province, joined together to score achievements, gaining victory in their revolutionary tasks under the leadership of the Lao Revolutionary People's Party with excellent results. Although in that period, they faced the schemes of sabotage of the expansionist hegemonist big powers, the imperialists, and other reactionaries, the results showed in the major tasks, as follows.

In agriculture, forestry, and irrigation, they opened new rice fields or restored more than 500 hectares of abandoned fields. They paid attention to the construction of a canal system: the Nam Cheng Canal, Nam Phamai, and others in several locations. They channeled water to cultivated areas in two cantons, Phon Si Canton and Nam Cheng Canton. In the first three years the people paid attention to new techniques and scientific methods in their production, gradually changing the individual scattered farming for an agricultural cooperative system and intensive cultivation, successfully. Production each year in some locales reached 2,000 kg of unhusked rice per hectare.

In the past five years they were able to harvest 10,000 tons, which exceeded the estimate set by the plan. They established exemplary strong agricultural cooperatives in two villages.

Livestock raising: From 1976 to the present there was expansion throughout the district, with water buffalo increasing to 11,298, cattle to 10,559, and poultry to 35,360.

Forestry: They determined to care for the forests properly, to increase the planting of trees as replacements for losses, for various service offices around the district.

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CSO: 4206

NEPAL

OPPOSITION REPORTEDLY MAY FORM COMMON FRONT

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 7 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Feb. 6.--With the new elections projected in the beginning of May this year, a move is afoot among the democratic parties in Nepal to join hands for a "national popular force", according to Nepalese leaders now in the capital.

They cited a statement issued three days ago by Mr B. P. Koirala, who leads the banned Nepali congress. Mr Koirala has indicated that he will make common cause with "my colleagues and comrades and other leaders in the opposition camp to arrive at a general consensus on the question of the present controversial constitution amendment", announced by King Birendra, under which the proposed elections are to be held.

The leaders of the democratic parties have welcomed this statement. For the first time in recent years, Mr Koirala has thought of taking along with him other groups in the struggle for democratic unity, Mr Surya Prasad Upadhaya, president of a Nepali Congress faction (which too is banned), and Mr K. P. Srivastava, an executive member of his party, told a Press conference yesterday.

Mr Upadhaya, who was at one time Home Minister in Mr Koirala's Government, said yesterday that the former Prime Minister's latest pronouncements "are encouraging". He said Mr Koirala, since his return to Kathmandu (after his visit to the USA) had been meeting all the former Prime Ministers of the kingdom obviously for a "consensus" among the democratic parties, "and this is a positive political indication in the direction of democratic unity".

In his statement, Mr Upadhaya said: "The third constitutional proclamation issued by King Birendra on December 15 has given an impetus to the democratic forces in Nepal to sit together and form a united front to present a comprehensive memorandum to the king, so that a political instrument may be created for the well-being of the people and development of Nepal".

He appealed to all democrats in Nepal "to force their leadership to create a national alternative".

Answering questions, Mr Upadhaya said the democratic parties would request the king to form an impartial set-up immediately to clear the way for holding fair and free elections and would expect the king to make it possible for the democratic elements to participate in the elections.

Mr Koirala said in his statement "The third amendment of the constitution that has recently been announced by the King is on the whole a disappointing document. It has admittedly some positive elements incorporating some of the features of parliamentary democracy. But these have been negated by other contradicting articles. What the country needs is a political instrument that can bring about social and economic transformation and which can help the emergence of a strong national popular force."

CSO: 4220

GOVERNMENT REPORTED TO FEAR REFERENDUM

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 Feb 81 p 8

[Article by Gamini Navaratne]

[Text]

COLOMBO: President Jayawardene's United National Party government has averted a referendum by deciding to allow a bill embodying the third amendment to the constitution passed by parliament to lapse. But legal circles believe that another constitutional amendment will be required to rectify the anomaly of not having acted on parliament's mandate.

Article 85 of Sri Lanka's constitution stipulates that the "President shall submit to the people in a referendum every bill or any provision thereof which the supreme court has determined to be requiring the approval of the people after passage by parliament by a two-thirds majority."

The amending bill sought to increase by one to 169 the membership of parliament. This became necessary to "accommodate" the member elected in the Kalawana by-election held on January 12 "without prejudice" to the right of the member nominated to the same seat, Mr. A. B. Pilapitiya (UNP), to sit in the house. Mr. Pilapitiya was returned to parliament in the 1977 general election. But he lost the seat by remaining absent from the house without leave for three months.

COURT RULING

Sri Lanka switched to proportional representation in 1978 under its new constitution under which any vacancy can be filled by nomination by the party to which the vacating member belonged. Mr. Pilapitiya was so nominated. But the supreme court held that the UNP member's original election in 1977 under the old constitution was invalid because he had violated the election law by remaining absent from the house without leave. The President followed up the court's ruling by ordering a by-election in Kalawana which constituency was already represented in

the house by Mr. Pilapitiya. When the opposition challenged his continuance in the house despite the court's decision, the speaker, Mr. Bakke Marikar, upheld Mr. Pilapitiya's right to sit in the house.

This peculiar situation had compelled the government to seek a third amendment to the constitution which would enable it to increase the membership of the house. But the supreme court again ruled that the government had no right to increase the membership without the consent of the people as it affected their right of franchise. "The court's decision," an opposition newspaper commented, "has put the government, which fears to face the people, in a real fix". The referendum, if held, according to political circles, would have been a virtual mid-term general election. The ruling party was obviously wary of inviting a test of its popularity at a time when people were discontented over inflation and rising unemployment.

The President said after the by-election (which was won by the common opposition candidate, Mr. Sarath Mutturugama of the pro-Moscow Communist Party) that the amendment was necessary because of an incompatibility between the new constitution and the election law. But later he amended the statement to say that this was no more so as Mr. Pilapitiya had resigned his seat.

None of the government leaders, including Mr. Jayewardene, had spoken enthusiastically about the referendum, while opposition speakers, led by the former premier, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, welcomed it as an opportunity to test public opinion not only on the amendment but the whole range of the UNP's political and economic policies since the general election in July 1977.

UNP was quick to realise that an adverse popular verdict in the referendum would tantamount to a censure of

the government itself. It, therefore, resorted to the simple stratagem of getting Mr. Pilapitiya vacate his seat in parliament once again.

Meanwhile, the civil rights movement, comprising leading jurists and other professionals, is of the view that the government's decision to allow the constitutional amendment bill to lapse is not legally correct. In a press statement, it has said the only stage at which the government could have allowed the bill to lapse and avoided a referendum was before its passage by parliament. Once passed, the President is obliged to hold the referendum.

STUDY BY LAW OFFICERS

Government law officers are now studying the position and the course to be adopted will be known shortly.

The opposition alleged that the government had planned to rush through the amendment, using the ruling party's steam-roller five-sixths majority. In support, they cited the fact that the attorney-general, Mr. Siva Pasupathay, appearing before the supreme court on behalf of the government, had argued that no referendum was necessary because the bill merely sought to accommodate an additional member.

Once the court decision had been announced, there had been intense pressure from even within government ranks for Mr. Pilapitiya to resign so that there would be no need to amend the constitution and hold a costly referendum. Three ministers advocated this course when the matter was discussed by the government parliamentary group.

The opponents of this course argued that the bill embodying the amendment would make a "mockery of democracy" as it sought to accommodate a member elected by the people while the nominated member remained ensclosed in the house.

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